

England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and Eire . . .

FOR once togetherness is not what was required when the draw was made for the European Championship. The last thing England, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland wanted was to be drawn in the same Group One of the Championship.

It means only one of the above three countries can reach the Quarter-Finals. It ends the excitement that would have been created if all three countries had been fighting it out in different

There is still a lot of interest, though. The meeting of Northern Ireland and the Republic at the top level for the first time can only do good. Not only for football, but also for the population of that troubled land.

troubled land.

Without belittling Denmark, England should triumph in their encounters with them if past results are anything to go by.

Only once in five previous meetings have Denmark avoided defeat, that was in the first ever meeting when they held a strong England side to a 0-0 draw in Copenhagen in September, 1948.

Northern Ireland's forthcoming two clashes with Denmark will also be the first meetings between the two countries.

The Republic of Ireland, however, will be heartened by the fact that in six previous matches with Denmark they have lost only once.

Denmark they have lost only once.
The most important clash was the last one. It was the first European Championship match of the 1978-80 series and the Republic drew 3-3 in Denmark on May 24th,

Frank Stapleton, Tony Grealish and Gerry Daly scored the Irish goals and at least they can say

Republic could not be described as foreign opposition and England held out for another four years until Hungary won 6-3 at Wembley in November, 1953, and settled any England claim to their unbeaten home record. Of the other five matches between England and the Republic, England have won three and the

GROUP ONE ENGLAND N. IRELAND R. OF IRELAND Denmark Bulgaria

GROUP TWO SCOTLAND Austria ... Belgium Norway **Portugal**

GROUP SEVEN WALES Malta Turkey **West Germany**

England, of course said the Republic could not be described as

other two matches were drawn. England's biggest victory being 5-1 at Wembley in May, 1957. The late Tommy Taylor of Man-chester United scored a hat-trick and Bristol City's John Atyeo netted a brace.

England v Bulgaria is a different matter. Very few visiting international sides come away from Bulgaria boasting of a victory.

Bulgaria have always been a tight, defensive side. England have met the Bulgars three times and although undefeated, have one victory against two draws. victory against two draws

The first clash came in the 1962

they share top spot in their Group at the moment!

In past encounters, the Republic of Ireland had beaten Denmark twice, lost once and drawn twice. One of the drawn games being in Dublin in December, 1968, and was abandoned after 51 minutes owing

England have been playing Northern Ireland at international level since 1882 and the six Irish victories out of 85 encounters will not give Danny Blanchflower's side much encouragement for the two meetings with Ron Green-wood's much improved England. The two teams have met twice

the European Championship



Dublin, May, 1957 . . . Ringstead of Eire (centre, background) scores against England

and England won 2-0 in both encounters in October, 1966, with goals by Roger Hunt and Martin Peters and in November, 1967, Geoff Hurst and Bobby Charlton netted to beat the Irish by the same margin.

World Cup Finals in Rancagua, Chile, and ended goalless. In December, 1968, at Wembley it was a 1-1 draw with Geoff Hurst notching England's goal.

England's sole victory against Bulgaria came in June, 1974, when Frank Worthington scored the only goal of the match in Sofia. The Republic have met Bulgaria twice,





ABOVE England forwards can hardly believe it as Bulgaria goalkeeper Simeonov saves a shot during the game at Wembley in December, 1968.
RIGHT Vienna, 1969—Austria 2 Scotland 0.
Redl scores. — Austria 2, Scotland V. Redi scores. BELOW West Germany's Klaus Fischer and David Jones of Wales in action in Dortmund, December last year.





World Cup qualifying

both in World Cup qualifying games in 1977. Bulgaria winning a rough and tumble 2-1 in Sofia and drawing 0-0 in Dublin.

Northern Ireland also have met Bulgaria twice, and also in World Cup qualifying games, Bulgaria winning 3-0 in Sofia in October, 1972, and drawing 0-0 in Sheffield in September, 1973.

Scotland are the enigma. Can manager Ally MacLeod restore the spirit to his team after the horror of Argentina?

of Argentina?
Their supporters have forgotten
Peru and Iran already, only the last
game with Holland remains in

their memories.
On that narrow plank of success Scotland shoot into the whirlpool of the European Championship convinced they will finish on top of

their Group.

We wish we were as confident about the outcome of Group Two. Austria at least reached the last eight of the 1978 World Cup and in Hans Krank! have a world-class striker — ask West Germany!

Scotland have met all four of their opponents before at national level. Austria won the last time they met Scotland, 2-0 in Vienna in 1969 in a World Cup qualifying game.

game.

Altogether, the Scottish record against Austria reads P12 W3 D3 L6. So if past results mean anything, not an encouraging prospect for Ally's reformed army.

Scotland should get the better of Norway. Only once have Norway beaten the Scots and that was in June, 1963, when Norway won 4-3. Five months later Scotland revenged that defeat by a 6-1 win at Hampden with Denis Law scoring four and Dave Mackay two. The last time the two teams met, Scotland won 2-1 in Oslo with goals from Joe Jordan and Kenny Dalglish.

Portugal and Scotland are level

Portugal and Scotland are level pegging with three victories each and one match drawn.
Scotland have already clashed with Portugal in the European Championship. In Lisbon in April, 1971, they went down 2-0, but in the return at Hampden goals by John O'Hare and Archie Gemmill saw Scotland win 2-1.
A victory apiece was also Scot-

A victory apiece was also Scot-land's experience in European

Championship

Belgium.
In Liege in February, 1971, Belgium won 3-0 and a goal by John O'Hare in November of the same year in Aberdeen gained Scotland a 1-0 win. While the other four matches with Belgium have ended with two victories for each side.

matches with Belgium have ended with two victories for each side. Wales in Group Seven meet two new opponents for the first time in international soccer in Turkey and Malta. The George Cross island almost stopped playing international matches, but had a change of mind and entered the European Championship.

The Welsh carried the British banner alone in the Quarter-Finals in the last European Championship before losing to Yugoslavia.

With Malta conceding 27 goals in six matches in their 1978 World Cup qualifying matches, and Tur-

Cup qualifying matches, and Tur-key finishing third in the same Group as Malta, Wales' main chal-Group as Malta, Wales' main challenge for a place in the Quarter-Finals will obviously come from West Germany. The Germans start this season under a new manager in Jupp Derwall and Wales will not be unduly dismayed at meeting the 1974 World Champions. In four encounters Wales have drawn three and lost once. That 2-0 defeat being at Ninian Park on

2-0 defeat being at Ninian Park on October 6th, 1976, in a match to celebrate the centenary of the Welsh F.A.

Wales more than atoned for that setback when they drew 1-1 in Dortmund on December 14th, 1977

That result will give the wearers of the red shirts a great boost when they meet a West Germany still disappointed with their World Cup performances in Argentina.

The 1978-80 European Championship promises us a feast of socional control of the c

The 1978-80 European Championship promises us a feast of soccer. For England, it is a chance to show that they can maintain last year's promising form in a fierce competition.

For Wales, the pride and passion of their race will ensure they put up a good fight. For Scotland, it is a chance to show Europe that their form in Argentina was too bad to be true.

be true.

For the two Irish sides, their hope is that England slip up and one of them can win a place in the Quarter-Finals.

Dec 14 1977 Dortmund

Past encounters in all matches between teams and their opponents in the European Championship

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This week's Star Letter comes from Tony Mann of West Hampstead, London, who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

SELL ARDILES AND VILLA!

AS MUCH as I admired Kerth Burkinshaw for bringing Villa and Ardiles to Spurs, as a Tot-tenham fan I'm beginning to won-der if the money couldn't have been spent better in other depart-S MUCH as I admired Keith

With Glenn Hoddle and Neil McNab in midfield, we were already strong; what we needed were some new defenders, a fact underlined by Spurs' goals-against column.

I think the two Argentines are superb players who will be a success, but I hope they're not a success in the Second Division. Unless Spurs strengthen their defence—and bring back a John Pratt type ball-winner in midfield, we'll be back in Division Ture. back in Division Two.

I know it will not happen - and perhaps I don't really want it to — but Burkinshaw should sell Villa and Ardiles to buy two top-class defenders.

 Burkinshaw, rightly, says the problems start before the defence.
 The Hoddle/McNab/Ardiles mid-field trio doesn't have the right balance . . . they attack too much, leaving alarming gaps for oppo-nents to exploit. The Spurs' boss has got to do something, but he won't sell the two superstars.

Thanks, Jock

N BEHALF of all Celtic fans, I'd ON BEHALF of all Celtic fans, I'd like to say a very big "thank you" to Jock Stein for all he's done for the club over the years.

RAYMOND HUGHES, BELFAST.

Celtic's loss is Leeds' gain and I'm sure the Big Man will be a big success at Elland Road.

Left ... Or Right?

YOUR article about Brian N YOUR article about Brian Clough, there were two pictures of him with his "right-hand man" Peter Taylor. In both photos Peter is on Brian's left!

BILLY CHARLTON, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

• You know Cloughie . . . always different from everyone else!

Magical Ray

SAW the recent Spurs/Chelsea game on T.V. Everyone's atten-tion was focused on Villa and Ardiles, who played well.

But there was one player who

outshone everyone — Ray Wilkins. Every time he touched the ball it was sheer magic — his timing and precision were a credit to our game.

I was glad to hear Brian Moore acknowledge his brilliant display, and let's remember there are still players in our League who are as good as the newly-arrived Argentines.

> E. ROBERTS, HAZEL GROVE.



 Yes, Ray had a great game that afternoon. Perhaps he was motivated by the presence of the two Spurs' stars, but Ray was the star of the show.

Pen-Pal

M A 19-year-old Japanese boy and I would like pen-pals in Great Britain who support Manchester United or Leeds United.

TAKASHI NAKATSUKA, KITAURAWA 2 CHOME, URAWA-SHI, 19-17-2-402, 336 SAITAMA JAPAN.

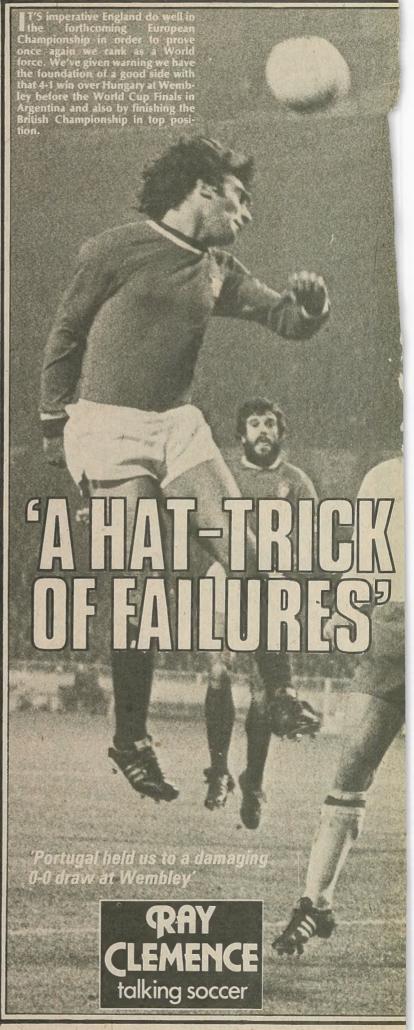
No Complaint

THE RECENT European Athletics Championships were screened live by both T.V. channels at peak viewing time on occasions. Yet I didn't hear the outcry that invari-ably occurs when we're saturated with soccer.

Why?

DENNIS PATTERSON, SIDCUP.

 Perhaps the people who complain about soccer are athletics fans?



We won't be taken seriously, though, until we qualify for the final stages of a major competition. And if England should go on to win the 1980 European Championship — something no Home nation has yet accomplished — we'll be set fair to qualify for the next World Cup in Spain in 1982.

It'll be no good taking consolation — as we have tended to do in

some quarters in the past — in pointing out the team which knocked us out went on to shine in a competition. Such as Czechoslovakia in the 1976 European Championship, who ran out eventual winners.

Or Poland, who eliminated us in the 1974 World Cup, and finished in third place.

It's amazing how a team regarded

Or Poland, who eliminated us in the 1974 World Cup, and finished in third place.

It's amazing how a team regarded almost as a "no-hoper" can improve after an undistinguished start. In Poland's case they were well and truly beaten by Wales in Cardiff by 2-0 in 1973.

In October, 1974, England sunk Czechoslovakia at Wembley by 3-0, only the Czechs fought much harder than the Poles did against the Red Dragons of Wales and only caved in when we scored our first goal after pressing for a long time.

Both teams gained in confidence as they progressed until they were hardly recognisable as ones that began the respective campaigns.

Analysing England's all-too short passages in qualifying groups for the 1974 World Cup, the 1976 European Championship and the 1978 World Cup, I pick out one bad result in each case that added up to our hat-trick of failures.

In the first instance, losing to the Poles by 2-0 in Katowice, in June, 1973, which put such tremendous pressure on us to win the final game at Wembley.

In the second, not the 2-1 defeat in a replayed game against the Czechs in Bratislava in October, 1975 — the first was stopped shortly after the kick-off due to thick fog — but the game against Portugal at Wembley in November, 1974, when we allowed them to hold us to a frustrating 0-0 draw.

And in the third, merely beating finland 2-1 at Wembley in October, 1976, after notching up a 4-1 win earlier in Helsinki.

So what we must do is to avoid a repetition in this coming tournament.

Of the other teams in our group — Bulgaria, Denmark, and the two

Of the other teams in our group

— Bulgaria, Denmark, and the two
Irelands, I am certain the Republic
poses the strongest threat to our

chances.

The fact they have a limited number of players to call on is actually a big advantage to them. Ninety per cent of the team are playing in the First Division of the Football League, are all well-established, and have been knitted

together into a well-balanced team oozing confidence and skill.

I was shocked by their failure to qualify for Argentina. France went instead, after surprisingly beating the Republic in Paris.

Inspiration behind the side is Johnny Giles, still a player of immense vision and tactical sense. However, I feel he is mistaken in trying to run a game almost single-handed and in changing his position.

He's moved back into defence, but instead of taking the ball out of the back-four, he would be better advised reverting to the role in which he excelled: playing in midfield and operating from the half-

field and operating from the half-way line.

I believe in the game against France he made uncharacteristic mistakes which cost goals.

Around him he has some tremendous players. Steve Heighway, my team-mate from Liverpool; Don Givens, formerly of Q.P.R., now with Birmingham, who can score superb goals — he once scored four goals, against Turkey in October, 1975 — the two Arsenal lads, David O'Leary and Liam Brady.

Always difficult

Always difficult

Coincidentally, both the Republic and England were drawn to play Denmark first. Johnny Giles' men have already paid their visit to Copenhagen, where they drew 3-3 after being 3-1 ahead at one stage. Like the Republic, who held us to a 1-1 draw in a friendly at Wembley in 1976, Northern Ireland have always been difficult opponents.

A cliche in football is players make an extra effort when they pull on their country's shirt. And this is absolutely true in the case of both Irish teams. The wearing of the green really does gee them up.

A strong possibility is the two Irelands will cancel each other out, so smoothing our passage to the Quarter-Finals.

Bulgaria are something of an unknown quantity to me. The only time I played against them was in my early days with England, way back in 1974, when caretakermanager joe Mercer took us on a close-season tour. Bulgaria were World Cup qualifiers at the time and we gained a 1-0 win in Sofia.

Stevie Heighway, who has played against the Bulgars since then, reports they have become very

physical, especially in their own country.

I've also been picking Stevie's brains about the Danes, although England manager Ron Greenwood and his aides will be supplying us with details of their style, tactics and individual abilitites.

According to Stevie, the Danes are a very fast side, quick on the break, and inbred with a fine fighting spirit. They never gave up after going two goals down to the Republic and succeeded in drawing level.

They were also without two of their star players: Simonsen, captain of Borussia Monchengladbach, the winger who slammed a bilistering shot past me in the 1977 European Cup Final in Rome and Sorensen, also a winger, but with Belgian club Bruges, Liverpool's opponents in the 1978 European Cup.

So Denmark next Wednesday are likely to be a more formidable side than the one the Republic faced.

However, it's a game we're in the mood to win — and which we need to do so to get off to the highly desirable good start that will put us in good heart for what could be our toughest hurdle: our meeting with the Republic next month in Dublin.

Another win then will not only give us four points, but a psychological advantage that could carry us through to qualification for the next stage.

Naturally, I hope to be picked to

carry us through to qualification for the next stage.

Naturally, I hope to be picked to play. My main rival, Peter Shilton, appeared in England's last match, while I got the nod for the previous one, at Hampden Park against Scotland in the climax to the British Championship. It was understood then that, win or lose, Peter would replace me against Hungary at Wembley.

So on that basis, it's my turn. But you learn never to take anything for granted in this game.

Like taking two points off Coventry City in this Saturday's League game at Anfield.

Hardest battle

Last season they gave us one of our hardest battles, in a League Cup tie. They took the lead, we equalised then went ahead, only for them to score again ten minutes from time and gain a draw.

Luck again favoured us in the replay at Highfield Road, where we ran out winners by 2-0.

Under manager Gordon Milne—a former Liverpool player and a great favourite—The Sky Blues play entertaining football and although last season they conceded almost as many goals as they scored, I'm sure the attacking policy will continue.

I'd back them to finish high enough in the table to qualify for a place in next season's U.E.F.A. Cup.

I'll be interested in studying their 'keeper, Jim Blyth, to see whether I'm justified in my belief he should have been the man between the sticks for Scotland in Argentina.

'I tip The Sky Blues for a U.E.F.A. Cup spot'

A SENSATION IF WE BEAT ENGLAND

says Per Roentved, captain of Denmark

SHOOT: Per, what is your attitude to the match? Will Denmark attack from the start in Copenhagen and try to create an exciting game or will you play with defensive tactics hoping for an eventual 1-0 win?

ROENTVED: I can't imagine our manager, Kurt Nielsen, will instruct us to along a section to the control of the contr

instruct us to play a safety-first game. England might put so much pressure on us during the match we shall have to play defensively, but our attitude will definitely be

SHOOT: Which England players

ROENTVED: Kevin Keegan in the match versus Italy at Wembley the goal he scored was wonderful. Apart from that I haven't seen many of their matches. But I know the English are very skilful. Their stamina is incredible.

SHOOT: Have you met Kevin Keegan in the West German Bundesliga?
ROENTVED: Yes, I have played against him. When he controls the

ball, he is very dangerous. He had some problems when he started his "second career" in Hamburg, but now the Germans can't do

without him.

SHOOT: Has he got any weaknesses? ROENTVED: Well, I think the only chance you have to stop him, is to chance you have to stop him, is to tackle him the second he receives the ball. As I said, when he is in possession he is very quick.

SHOOT: The English usually play a more physical game than the Continental teams. Do you think it will be a "heavy" match?

ROENTVED: The English kind of football does demand a lot of physical strength. They practise a

physical strength. They practise a different style from that in the Bundesliga. English defenders guard the forwards of the opponents in zones, while we follow one player through the match. I'm sure it will be a tough match ver-sus England. But it's always nice to meet English teams, because they

are fair, not dirty.

SHOOT: Denmark drew at home versus the Republic of Ireland. Was that a good or a bad result for you?

ROENTVED: We can only be happy we gained one point in that match.

Of course, we would have preferred a win, and I think our team actually is superior to the Irish, but we all had a bad day. Normally, we should beat a team like the Repub-lic of Ireland, but we were happy to

get one point.

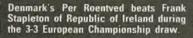
SHOOT: You don't seem to have much respect for the Irish...

ROENTVED: Let me put it this way

— we will have a better chance in Dublin than at Wembley. SHOOT: Do you think Denmark can

win this group? ROENTVED: Manager Kurt Nielsen has big problems each time he begins to make the team selection.





Sometimes our best players who are playing abroad play, sometimes they can't. Denmark need an awful lot of luck to win the group. I don't believe it's possible. But we're not a bad side. On a good day we can beat the top teams of the world, though everything has to be well-matched if we are going to make a good

SHOOT: Can you mention some players England ought to look out for? ROENTVED: The forwards always have the biggest chance to catch your eye, so let me mention Allan Simonsen, Henning Jensen and small winger Jorgen Kristensen (who is called "The Wizard" by the Press). They are all capable of making great performances, but there is no guarantee they will. SHOOT: Will all the professionals

playing abroad be available for Denmark v. England? ROENTVED: I suppose most of our big names will be available for this match, but you must remember they don't know each other. We may look strong, but that is not what matters, when we're out there on the ground. Simonsen and Jensen can strengthen our team, but when they haven't been playing together for us for a long time, other problems might spoil our game. I hope that DBU (the Danish F.A.) will demand any player transferred to a foreign club

must be free for internationals. It will take some time before we have a real top-class team. I don't believe it will happen in my time.

SHOOT: You have scored six goals in your last 15 games for Denmark. Do you think your left leg will mean trouble for Ray Clemence or Peter

Shilton?
ROENTVED: That's very possible!
SHOOT: Manager Kurt Nielsen took
over in January, 1976. Can you
describe him?

ROENTVED: It's a thankless job to manage the Danish national team. There are new faces all the time, the players don't know each other

consistency is an unknown word in this connection. But Kurt Nielsen has the Danish mentality. He accepts his working conditions and does the best he can. A foreign manager wouldn't accept the state

SHOOT: Has Nielsen any influence

at all on the way you play? ROENTVED: As I said before — he has the Danish mentality. He tries to "warm us up" before a match saying: "Come on, boys, let's go out there and fight," — and at the same time he is a bit of a wag. I think he is very good at his job, but it's difficult for him to practise his ideas and systems as we meet ideas and systems as we meet only one or two days before a

SHOOT: For the first time the players of Denmark are receiving money for their efforts this year. Does this mean

better results? ROENTVED: It is important the players get money. When they do, our "foreign" players also become keen to play in friendlies, and in that way we get to know each

SHOOT: What is the match fee? ROENTVED: After our latest appearance — a home win against Sweden — we got about 5,000 crowns (£500). Against England we should get a bit more.

SHOOT: This year professional foot-ball was introduced in the Danish League. Will this strengthen the

national team? ROENTVED: In the long view, yes. But I think the introduction of professional football was made wrongly in Denmark. Any of the 48 clubs in the League can pay their players and that is wrong. We should have a Premier Division with 12 or 14 teams, in which all the best players should be playing. SHOOT: You said "in the long view." How many years will it take? ROENTVED: It depends on how soon the powers-that-be realise they have made a mistake. SHOOT: How do you see Denmark's chances against Northern Ireland and Bulgaria?

ROENTVED: I'd say we have fiftyfifty chances against both teams. I admit I don't know much about them. They are not bad opponents,

SHOOT: A home win versus Northern Ireland and a defeat in Belfast. Does that sound reasonable? ROENTVED: Yes, I think we can

beat them at home.

SHOOT: And what about Bulgaria?
They qualified for the World Cup
Finals in '62, '66, '70 and '74.
ROENTVED: A Danish amateur

team won in Rumania in 1972. So why shouldn't we beat Bulgaria?

SHOOT: How do you think Denmark/England will go?
ROENTVED: If we get a good start — like the one against Sweden — anything can happen. If we're unlucky and concede a goal early in the match, we might panic. I saw England when they met West Germany in Munich and in that match they played well. If we beat them it will really be a sensation. SHOOT: What kind of a result would be satisfying for Denmark? A draw? ROENTVED: That would be a very

good result, yes. SHOOT: Most people think the decid-ing match will be Bulgaria v. England in Sofia. Do you agree? ROENTVED: Yes, that's very likely.

I don't think we're going to play a

big part in this group.

SHOOT: A capacity crowd will watch the match. Are the spectators a

big help for Denmark? ROENTVED: To be at home with 50,000 spectators is almost always a big help. In 1977 we met Poland in the World Cup and our own fans turned against us when we played badly. I don't believe it will happen again. The expectations were too big, when we met Poland, but against England we can only sur-

• Interview by Jens-Christian Nohr.

Interview with Austria's HANSKRANK The striker **Scotland** nust watch

T'S been an incredible year. So many things have happened so quickly that sometimes I just can't believe it's all true." That's Hans Krankl's view of a year in which his 41 goals in 34 Austrian League matches won him the Adidas Golden Shoe Award; his six goals in World Cup qualifying games paved Austria's way to Argentina; and his four goals in six games in Argentina persuaded Barcelona to pay Rapid Vienna £475,000 for his services.

SHOOT WAS IN Barcelona on the day the curtain went up on the new season, and 2,000 fans had turned up on a Monday morning just to watch the first training session. Hans looked confused: "This is incredible. I only arrived on Saturday, and I only know two words of Spanish! I must admit I feel a bit lost." His lack of Spanish made life difficult for the hordes of Press, radio and TV reporters queuing up to interview him, but as he speaks good English, SHOO was able to get an exclusive interview, albeit jostled continuously by hundreds of autograph-hunters.

SHOOT: What has brought you to Barcelona, Hans? Is it to advance your career, or was money the determining factor?

KRANKL: This is always a difficult

question to ask a player, because some will be convinced I have come here purely for the money. But they're wrong. I'm not denying the money is good, and this can be important for the future of my family. But it takes more than just money to make you uproot your family and go to a different country. It's really a positive step in my career as a professional footballer. have been top scorer in the Austrian League since 1974, and I've represented my country in a World Cup, so I felt I needed a new set of challenges. I've proved I can score goals in Austria and at interna-tional level, and this transfer means I have a chance to prove myself as a player in a different context.

SHOOT: There was a big scandal in Spain about your transfer, and Val-encia have made an official protest because they reckon they had already signed you before Bar-celona stepped in with their bigger

KRANKL: I don't see the problem myself. From my point of view everything was quite simple. Apparently while I was away in Argentina, Valencia approached my club, Rapid Vienna. But they didn't say a word to Hans Krankli Barcelona also made an approach to Rapid and talked to Hans Krankii So, as far as I was con-

cerned only Barcelona had made a correct approach, and I was delighted to sign for a club that has so much prestige in European

SHOOT: Most of the Spanish Press has been saying you're "Johan Cruyff's replacement" at Bar-celona. What do you think of that? KRANKL: It's flattering, but I don't like it at all! In my opinion, Cruyff rates alongside Pelé and Becken-bauer as one of the great footbal-lers of our times, and I simply don't believe he can be replaced by any one player. What's more, Cruyff was the creative general in the Barcelona side, whereas I am 100 per cent a striker. My job is purely to score goals. I hope the Barcelona fans will understand Cruyff and I are two different types of player, because my life will be very difficult if they expect me to do the

same things as he did. SHOOT: Do you think your per-formances in the World Cup

clinched your transfer?
KRANKL: Yes, I think so, because in Argentina I proved I can score goals at the top international level as well as in the Austrian League. In that respect I was very happy with our 3-2 win against West Germany, because we played really well and I scored two goals.
SHOOT: What about that 5-1 thrashing by Holland?
KRANKL: Oh yes, that was easily our worst game. Horrible. When

Holland scored twice early on, we had to open up and start looking for goals, and they kept catching

us with counter attacks. SHOOT: Looking back, what's your opinion on the general level of play

during the World Cup? KRANKL: I think the standard was high, though there weren't any really dominant individuals in the same class as Pelé, Cruyff or Beckenbauer. I think on balance Argentina deserved their win because they played attacking football all the time, and I was particularly impressed with their strikers Kempes and Luque.

SHOOT: Talking about strikers, your transfer fee of nearly half a million pounds puts you amongst the world's top strikers. Do you think this is a correct assessment of

your skills?
KRANKL: Oh no, I wouldn't like to say I'm one of the best in the world, because I think the fluctuating values on the transfer market can be misleading. No, I would say simply I'm a specialist, and, as it happens, my speciality is scoring goals. And in today's football hit-

to find accommodation and settle in. And we've got to adapt to a whole new style of life. Also, it's not very nice when you can't communicate with your team-mates. I'm a quiet sort of person anyway, but in training I feel left out, particularly when the others are cracking jokes.
SHOOT: It seems to be difficult to

score goals in Spain, and no Spaniard has come near to winning the Adidas Golden Shoe Award that you won last season. Do you think you have a chance of

repeating your win?
KRANKL: I'd like to say yes, but being realistic I think I'll be happy with 20 goals this season. Apart from my personal adaptation problems, the Barcelona side has got to be completely reshaped now Johan Cruyff has gone, and there's a new manager and a lot of new players. Yes, I think 20 goals is a reasonable target, because this

season able target, because this season is going to be a big challenge for Hans Krankl . . . SHOOT: Changing the subject, will you be playing for Austria against Scotland on the 20th? KRANKL: Yes, if all goes well. There's a clause in my contract with Barcelona that stipulates my release for international games. release for international games. SHOOT: How do you see the

KRANKL: I honestly wouldn't like to make a forecast. It's one of those games which will be difficult for both sides. I mean, in Argentina, Scotland didn't play at all well, but I don't think we must be fooled into thinking they'll always play so badly. They have some very good individual players, such



as Kenny Dalglish — and of course all my 'heroes' from Manchester United! Did I tell you United are my favourite team? I'm a great fan of theirs, and it will be a thrill for me to play against people like Joe Jordan, Martin Buchan and Gordon McQueen. Is it true Lou Macari has been banned? That's a great pity, because he's a very good

player.
SHOOT: Were you surprised Ally MacLeod is still manager?
KRANKL: Well, to be honest, yes.

But I don't think it's correct for me to make comments about that

SHOOT: On the other hand, Austria

have a new team manager . . KRANKL: yes, Karl Stotz, the Austria Vienna manager. I don't know what long-term plans he has, but I imagine he'll select more or less the same team as we had in Argentina, because he simply hasn't the time at the moment to make any sweeping changes, particularly against strong opposition like Scotland. As I said, it will be a difficult game for both teams, but we have the advantage of playing at home, and perhaps our morale is higher than theirs. On the other hand, they'll be going allout to make up for their poor performance in Argentina . . . yes, all in all, it's going to be a very difficult and interesting match, I

ting the back of the net is the most difficult thing — that's why Barcelona have paid a lot of money for me. Other 'specialists', such as defenders, may be just as good at their job, but they simply don't attract the same sort of money. SHOOT: What problems will you have in adapting to Spanish foot-

KRANKL: At the moment it's too early for me to say, because the football is the least of my problems! It's off the pitch it's more difficult to adapt at the moment. My wife and children don't speak Spanish, and neither do I. We're away from our families. We've got

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW

AUSTRIA v. SCOTLAND

(Wednesday September 20th, Vienna).

SCOTLAND get the opportunity to wipe out some of their World Cup shame when they meet Austria in the European Championship in Vienna next week.

There is still anger North of the border at the way the Scots failed

so miserably in Argentina after the big send-off.

The players know there is pressure on them and Ally Mac-Leod, who took the brunt of the criticism, has certainly done his homework this time.

He was blasted for not watching any of Scotland's World Cup opponents - Holland, Iran and Peru



No promises from ALLY MACLEOD

but last month he travelled to Oslo to watch section rivals Norway and Austria in action.

MacLeod must have impressed by the solid display of the Austrians who built slowly and deliberately from the back and moved the ball about swiftly in the danger-zone. They eventually won 2-0, but should have scored at least another three goals.

The Scots rearguard can expect a tough time of it from Hans Kranki, who, of course, signed for Barcelona after his World Cup dis-

plays which included two superb goals against West Germany. Kranki was on target again in Oslo when he combined his alertness, pace and power to prise open the Norwegian defence and place the ball with the greatest of ease past the despairing goalkeeper.

Scotland will have to mark him closely. closely. Herbert Prohaska is another talented Austrian who spells danger to rivals when he strikes form.

Prohaska drifts in-and-out of games in his midfield position, but

he is the sort of player who can punish hesitancy in defences with inch-perfect through balls. He is the prince of the precision pass and Scotland cannot afford him time and room to weave his magic patterns.

Graeme Souness could be the man to nulify the special talents of Prohaska. The Liverpool midfielder played in only one World Cup match, the 3-2 victory over Hol-land, and his class was apparent to everyone.

Neutral observers wondered why MacLeod hadn't played the silky, smooth Souness in the matches against Peru and Iran and the Scotland boss had to admit he had made a mistake. He surely won't make the same one again! The combination of Souness and

his Liverpool team-mate Kenny Dalglish, who was so disappointing in Argentina, could present a lot of problems to the Austrian defence where centre-back Bruno Pezzey sometimes gives a fair impresssion of the invisible man.

Ally MacLeod is making no promises this time, but the Scotland boss and the players know there's a heavy burden on their shoulders to return from Vienna with a respectable score.



F anyone thinks being overlooked for Scotland's World Cup party has dampened my enthusiasm to play for my country again . . . then they couldn't be farther from the truth. If anything, I'm more determined than ever to get back into international action and my fingers have been crossed I'm in the squad for the European Championship tie against Austria in Vienna.

However, I want to make it quite

clear straight away I'm taking absolutely nothing for granted. I WANT to play; whether I'll be picked is another matter.

I was badly misquoted in the Scottish Press when a reporter got completely the wrong idea of what I told him. I said that last season I spent a lot of time talking, thinking and worrying about playing for my country again. Now, my attitude is

'No grudges I want my fifth Scotland cap'



o do as well as I can for Villa and ope this is enough to get myself ck in the international reckoning. not putting a lot of "energy o wondering whether Ally Macd will give me the nod. I hope does, but it hasn't been forest on my mind. This came out in the paper as "Gray Snubs Scotland" which couldn't be farther from the Truth.

I don't think I'll ever completely over the disappointment of missing out on the trip to Argentina. Naturally it doesn't affect me in a footballing sense; I'm professional enough to realise that thinking about the past doesn't help your

All the same, it was the biggest blow of my career and deep down it'll always be there.

I've thought about why I wasn't chosen for the World Cup, yet the only answer I can come up with is Ally MacLeod made his decision about his squad of 22 and stuck to

It doesn't really bother me he is still in charge. By that I mean the S.F.A. made the decision to keep him on and I'm sure he'll give 100 per cent. There are certainly no personal grudges, as some folk may have whispered.

It's been said I was better off out

of it. Okay, so the World Cup wasn't a success for Scotland, but I'd have loved to have been in Argentina.

You'll be around for 1982 and 1986," well-meaning fans have written . . . yet who can say for certain Scotland will qualify? It's just possible I may have missed my chance of playing in soccer's top tournament, so how anyone could think I was better off in England I don't

I have won just four full caps, and whatever may have happened to me in Argentina couldn't have been worse than in that nightmare evening in Czechoslovakia when I was sent-off in a qualifying tie.

The subsequent ban meant could not play in the remainder of our ties and if anything has retarded my international career it's that.

It's not easy for me to comment on what went wrong in Argentina. A lot happened that was unreported and only those present and involved can speak with any authority.

I will, however, say there was, perhaps, an air of over-confidence

before the squad left and I believe

"I was impressed by Austria's Willy Kreuz (right)."



Round. It was only against Holland the side played as we know it can, but by then it was too late.

It's much easier to be wise in hindsight, although I'm sure we'll learn from the mistakes made . . . that's all part of soccer.

I didn't see all of the World Cup, yet what I saw I liked, especially the way quite a few countries played British-type football.

The team which impressed me most was Holland. They had bags of character which they showed by coming from behind so many times. I wonder if Argentina had been in the same position whether they'd have been able to pull themselves back so often?

The hosts started well, yet seemed to almost hang on and win in the end. Holland became stronger as the competition progressed and I felt sorry for them not

Their captain, Ruud Krol, had a superb World Cup and, in my mind, did more than any player to steer them to their second successive Final. He read the game so well,

showing all his experience.

Another player whom I liked was Hans Krankl, the Austria striker, who seems a strong, bustling centre-forward . . . almost British in his style. He scored a tremendous goal against West Germany and Scotland will certainly have to keep a close watch on him next week.

Austria were a strange side good in some games, yet so bad in others. I remember seeing them crushed 5-1 by Holland and they looked awful. Yet they came back to beat West Germany playing some excellent football.

Their strength is definitely going forward, because they looked very suspect at the back sometimes. I also liked Kreuz, Austria's number 10, who worked hard and had a

land going straight from the World Cup into the European Championship. Pressure can help players at times, and if we had a couple of friendlies there might be the temptation to relax. Now, Scotland must show the world they can bounce back.

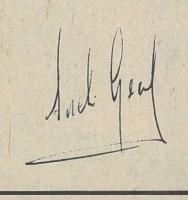
The World Cup will soon be forgotten if Scotland manage a draw or a win in Vienna. To be honest, I wouldn't be too bothered about the team's performance. If we can play attractive soccer AND get a good result . . . fine. Yet I doubt if any fan wants us to play well and lose 3-1 or

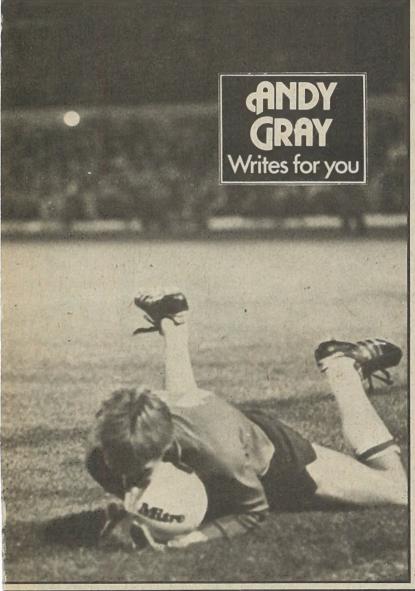
what have you.

I repeat: I'm taking nothing for granted. Ally MacLeod has seen me once this season when I scored Villa's winner against Wolves. I was happy with my form and to score a goal in a tense local derby was satisfying. Mind you, I was happy with my form overall last season...

At the moment, all my soccer thoughts are geared towards this Saturday's game at Villa Park against Everton. They beat us at home last season — they also beat us at Goodison, knocked us out of the F.A. Cup and I damaged knee ligaments! So it would be most satisfying to take two points from them this weekend.

Join me again in a fortnight,





THERE'S NEVER BEEN A SOCCER BOOK QUITE LIKE IT.

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Publication date mid September. **GUINNESS BOOKS** GUINNESS BOO

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND V N. IRELAND

T'S a shame we have to play each other — a shame we can't be one team." Those are the words of Republic of Ireland player-manager Johnny Glies fac-ing the prospect of a local "derby" with Northern Ireland in the Euro-pean Championship.

They are words which find an

echo in the hearts of most Irishmen North and South who long for the day when an all-Ireland side can take on the best in the world as happens at present in other sports like rugby, hockey and boxing.

boxing.

The legislators, however, are too busy counting the profits at the moment to bother about unity, for the first-ever clash between the Republic and Northern Ireland is a self-out, as is the Republic's game next month with England.

"It should be a very interesting the series of the serie

game from every point of view," says Giles, who has moulded the present Republic squad into a formidable team. "The fact the players from each side know each other won't make any difference. In fact, it might make it more competitive."

The only occasions North and South have met previously have been at youth and Under-21 level and some of the present internationals have figured in those games. In March, for instance, Jimmy Nicholl, David McCreery and Noel Brotherston were on the North's U-21 side which drew 1-1 with a Republic side which included Ashley Grimes and Paul

Back in 1975, Nicholl, Brotherston and McCreery were on the North's youth side which beat the Republic 2-6 in the U.E.F.A. Youth Finals in Switzerland. On the Republic side were Dave O'Leary, Tony Grealish and Dave Langan, while Peter Foley came on as a sub. All these players are now in contention for the big game at Lansdowne Road

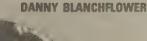
on September 20.
While this is Northern Ireland's debut in the current European Championship, the Republic have already taken a point from Denmark in a 3-3 draw in Copenhagen when Frank Stapleton, Tony Grealish and Gerry Daly were

on the mark.

Gerry Armstrong, who scored twice for Northern Ireland against Belgium last season in a World Cup-tie, is looking forward to playing the Republic who will probably include his Spurs' team-mate Jimmy Holmes. Gerry hands out a



FIRST-EVER CLASH



warning to his Southern rivals.

"Beating Belgium 3-0 was fine but I think we played even better against Scotland, England and Wales, particularly at Hampden where we got a draw and the Scotland was a better side.

Scots, after all, were a better side than Belgium," says Gerry. One training ground which will be practically deserted next week is that of Arsenal, who will supply O'Leary, Stapleton and Liam Brady to the Republic squad and Pat Rice, Sammy Nelson, Pat Jennings and Jimmy Harvey to the Northern Ire-land panel! No wonder manager Terry Neill, himself a former Northern stalwart, is such a keen advocate of an all-Ireland side.

As far as key men in this firstever clash is concerned, perhaps there is no need to look beyond the Arsenal contingent. Brady, thankfully back to full fitness, and the superb Jennings could be the men to set this game alight.

Northern Ireland manager Danny Blanchflower will approach the match with what he describes as an "open mind"

"There is nothing on which to base any predictions," says Danny. "Before the match I have a short

time to prepare my players, two approach the game in the right frame of mind and with goodwill. "Johnny Giles will be playing for them and he is a formidable opponent. days, and in that period see they

On the field, he will be able to get his ideas across to his players more effectively than if he was acting only as a non-playing manager, just as it would be better for me if I were able to be with the Northern Ireland players on the pitch.

"In the pre-match time I have, I shall be concentrating on our passing, and getting rid of any anxieties or tension the players may have. All the series that are worked out beforehand are use-less if the players are not able to carry tham out during the game. "And our meeting with Eire is

very much a mystery match — it is impossible to say beforehand how it will develop.

"In my preparation for it, when I'm working with my players, I will know they have been busy with their clubs for the previous six months working on their own par-

ticular systems.

"If I had six months with my team I would expect they would do much better than after only a

couple of days of preparation."

The meeting between the two countries is one Danny believes will arouse great interest as it will be the first between them — and this makes it a difficult match to analyse.

Blanchflower sums up: "But football is meant to be enjoyed, and we'll tackle the match in this spirit."

MATCH FACTS

MAIGH FAGIS

• Eire, the hosts, will wear their change strip of all white. This will be the third match in succession for them to wear white, having done so against Norway and Denmark last May.

• The F.A.I. and I.F.A. will have the third of the Unity talks on the eve of the big match (19th September).

tember).

Referee for the game is Pierre
Rion from Belgium.

CONN'S CURE

CELTIC star Alfie Conn looks forward to a successful season . . . after think-ing he was finished in top class

soccer.

Affie had a troublesome knee injury which kept him out of most of last term. Now thanks to a course in acupuncture with a London specialist he can look forward to helping Celtic to honours this season.

"The treatment saved my whole career," says Alfie. "I now feel tremendous."

Photo shows Alfie happily steer-

Photo shows Aifie happily steering the right course again.





'Oh my what a lovely referee'

Will we ever see women referee-ing our League games? Never, did you say? Well, don't be so sure — Karen Williams (see right), for in-stance, has been keeping the lads under control in five Sunday Leagues in Sheffield for the past two years. She passed the course and exami-nation to become a Class Three referee with flying colours in August, 1976, and has overcome the lack of

IRELAND'S EURO FACTS

NORTHERN Ireland's first-ever European Championship tie was a 2-0 away victory v. Poland, on October 10, 1962, when the legendary Derek Dougan and Coventry City winger Billy Humphries were the scorers.

Including the half-dozen British Championship games, qualifiers for Europe in 1966-67 and '67-68, Northern Ireland have won eight, drawn four and lost ten of their 22 games in the tournament.

NORTHERN Ireland's most-honoured player, Pat Jennings, capped 71 times to date, also claims his country's 15-game European Championship appearance

Next in line is much-travelled Dave Clements, with 13 Euro matches, followed by five others who have reached doubleby the others who have reached double-figures in the series, namely, Derek Dougan, Terry Neill (12 each), Allan Hunter, Bryan Hamilton and Jimmy Nicholson (11 each).

THE LAST official All-Ireland team to

THE LAST official All-Ireland team to compete in international soccer was the Ireland (Irish F.A., now Northern Ireland) side which drew, 0-0, with Wales, at Wrexham, on March 8, 1950.

Line-up was: Kelly (Fulham), Bowler (Hull City), Aherne (Luton), Blanchflower (Barnsley), Martin (Aston Villa), Ryan (West Brom), McKenna (Huddersfield), Smyth (Wolves), Walsh (West Brom), Brennan (Birmingham City), Lockhart (Coventry City).

STUNG!

PHYSIOTHERAPIST Jim McGregor was Everton's only fitness doubt before the start of the

While taking part in a four club inter-national tournament in Holland, Jim, the man who sorts out other people's aches and pains at Goodison, was bitten on the hand by an

The poison spread up his arm and he was forced to ask for an injection from the doctor travelling with the Benfica team, staying at the same hotel.



A STON VILLA's unlucky mid-fielder Alex Cropley hopes to be back in action by October. Not too long ago, the Scot was talk-ing about quitting the game after his second leg-break. "Now," he says, "I've made better progress than anticipated. Of course, there is still a long way to go.

way to go.

"I've played a few five-a-sides, but without tackling. When I see the first teamers training, it

comes home to me how much hard work there is to be done.
"Yet when I see the surgeon again in October I hope to be given the go-ahead to resume full training."

DEBUT GOALS

RICARDO Villa, with his much-publicised goal at Nottingham Forest on the opening day of the League season, wasn't the only one to mark his debut so spectacularly.

Bob Hatton and David Moss the strikers recruited by Luton Town from Blackpool

recruited by Luton Town from Blackpool and Swindon respectively, both notched a couple of goals apiece in the Bedfordshire club's 6-1 annihilation of Oldham.

And others to get off the mark on their first League appearances for new clubs were Martin Chivers (Norwich City), Ian McCulloch (with two for Notts County), Vic Davidson (Blackpool), Micky Horswill (Hull City), David Sunley (Lincoln City), Ian Miller (Swindon Town), Steve Massey (Bournemouth), Ian Crumplin (Hartlepool), Jack Lewis and Micky French (Doncaster Rovers), David Jackson (Bradford caster Rovers), David Jackson (Bradford City) and Les Bradd (Stockport County).

HOW can you have a team selection problem three weeks before the start of a new season?

The answer: lose one goalkeeper through suspension and another due

to a car smash.
That's what has happened to Brentford, whose first choice 'keeper Len Bond broke his hand in an accident, and whose second string Graham Cox missed the first match of the new season through suspension.

Happier news for The Bees is Steve Wilkins, one of the famous brothers from Stamford Bridge, has been training at Griffin Park and has joined the club on a one-month loan with a view to permanent transfer.

NEWPORT'S Tony Byrne recently turned down the chance to go back to Eire when he refused the player-manager's job at turbulent Limerick.

Free "Footballer of the Year" badge

To celebrate Peter Shilton joining their company as the seventh sponsored 'Superstar', Sondico

International Ltd have produced a free badge, carrying Peter's portrait.

Anyone interested in obtaining the badge featuring the Footballer of the Year (who wears Sondico goalkeeper gloves exclusively) can do so by sending a S.A.E. to Sondico International Limited, 5 Eldon Way, Biggleswade, Beds. SG18 8NJ.

Halifax Town — 'Huddersfield Old Boys'

HALIFAX Town shocked their 2,000 Fourth Division fans by selling midfielder Bobby Flavell to Chesterfield for £25,000 only 11 days before the season was due to begin.

What had happened to all that talk from the directors of points for promo-

from the directors of going for promotion and holding on to their best players?

players/
Before letter-writers to the local paper could monopolise the mailbag poliumns, player-manager Jimmy Lawson acted.

He went back to his previous club Huddersfield and paid Halifax's record £25,000 fee for Kevin Johnson (left) to

replace Flavell. Now Shay fans are happy. But a critical few have nicknamed the side

"Huddersfield Old Boys".

Since taking over from Alan Ball senior (he got the push) last November, Lawson has returned to Leeds Road for Francis Firth, Bob Mountford and now Johnson, besides busing a whiledersfield left back buying ex-Huddersfield left-back
Geoff Hutt from York City. He also
inherited Steve Smith (exHuddersfield) from Alan Ball.
But Lawson has an irrefutable
answer to the critics. Under his mana-

gership, Halifax took 31 points from 29 games last season, of which 15

were drawn.

Just a little keener finish this time and The Shaymen could go back to the Third Division next year — at their

Sound advice

FORMER Hibs stars, Alan Gordon, and Jimmy O'Rourke (now with Motherwell) played a new role as "consultants" recently.

Asked by a Danish businessman with Leith interests to give their expert opin-ion on the Freja club at Randers, the players, dressing-rooms and ground facilities, the pair flew over to Copen-

hagen on a Sunday.
They were driven on to Randers where after inspecting the stadium they watched Freja play B1903 — one of Denmark's best-known sides.
They returned to Scotland the same

night.
Freja plan to spend money to hold their First Division place and that's why the Scots were asked for their advice.

changing facilities and prejudice from some chauvinists.

Admiral believed in her and have fully kitted her out. She wears a skirt — the shorts wouldn't fit the frame that she keeps in trim with badminton and road running.

After ther first game — for under

and road running.

After her first game — for under 12's — the teams presented her with a box of chocolates. Since then she has booked eight players and learned to joke back if anyone saucily asks if they can scrub her back in the shower!

Karen hopes to be in charge of Saturday games but until then she happily continues to help out at Sheffield Wednesday on match days. She has sold programmes, worked on the turnstiles and in the office and, at present, transmits information to the electronic scoreboard. ectronic scoreboard. Some girl. Some referee!



THE Football League Cup switch from a straight knockout to two-legs in the First Round paid off at the fourth attempt.

The Saturday, August 27th, first-leg ties drew 137,077 fans — the highest figure since the change in 1975.

COLLECTOR

MARTIN Thomas, a promising young goalkeeper with Bristol Rovers, is still mad on football programme collecting.

Born at Senghenydd, near Caerphilly, the 18-year-old Welsh Youth international, also has a nice collection of records to go with the programme collection.

A former county rugby player at schoolboy level, Martin still has a big interest in that game — his brother, David, plays for Cardiff Rugby Club.

STRIKING IT RICH

EVEN relatively unknown players have been striking it rich through America's new interest in our game. Take the case of Tony Glavin.

As a midfield man with Glasgow's famous amateur club Queen's Park, Tony could only

read about the money the star professionals were getting.

Then Philadelphia Fury signed him . because there was no transfer fee involved, Tony collected a £10,000 signing-on fee to add to the £400-a-week wages the Yanks are paying him

LIVERPOOL'S SOCCER CENTURY

WHEN Liverpool play Nottingham Forest in the second-leg of their European Cup-tie it will be their 100th match in Europe —

and remarkably in all that time The Reds have never had a player sent-off.

Leeds United who have played 87 European ties have had nine dismissals — a stark contrast to their own League record of just seven players sent-off in 504 matches since the War.

Lost a million

DONCASTER Rovers supporters must reflect on what might have been had not the club sold so many forwards in recent seasons -- strikers who have gone on to greater things. In the last three years they have sold Terry Curran (Southampton), Mike Elwiss (Crystal Palace), Brendan O'Callaghan (Stoke City), Peter Kitchen (Orient) and Ian Miller (Swindon Town). That forward-line would cost something in the region of a million pounds now!

AYR United recently turned down a £70,000 Metherwell bid for their striker Walker McCall. "Not enough," said manager Alex Stuart. "Their figure was nowhere hear my valuation."

CLEAN BREAK

NORTHERN Ireland international Eric McMordie, a schoolboy pai of the legen-dary George Best, has called it a day. After 14 years on the Football League

After 14 years on the Football League circuit, and many international travels with Ireland, he has quit the game at 32. After hundreds of matches for Middlesbrough, York City and Hartlepool, McMordie has made a clean break. There will be no non-League football as he concentrates on his job as a representative with a building firm in the North-East.

BEFORE taking over from Dave Mackey as manager of Walsail, Alan Ashman, ex-boss of West Brom and Carlisle, was scouting for Manchester United.



DISGUSTING FANS'

REPUBLIC of Irelend striker Ray Treacy (above), who played the summer season for Toxonto Metros-Croatia in the N.A.S.L., had some pretty harsh things to say about fans in England and Ireland.

England and Ireland.

Treacy, now with Shamrock Rovers after a distinguished career in England, said: "It's disgusting when you're out there on the field and you look up and see a big gap on the terraces because 30 people are fighting.

"When we won the Irish Cup, the so-called supporters stampeded out of the stadium smashing windows and spraying cars with paint. These are the guys who say to me 'I'm a big fan of yours.'
"I prefer the fans in North America. They are as enthusiastic, but would

They are as enthusiastic, but would never dream of fighting."
Treacy, 30, is a jack-of-all-trades. For six years he was on the executive board of the P.F.A.

of the P.F.A.

He owns a travel agency, has had a single in the Irish pop charts and says of himself: "I come from a typical Irish family, we're all very close. My brother and I have a business of sorts. He's a priest — I ruln 'em and he saves 'em!"

YOUNG Scot arousing a great deal of interest North of the border . . . St. Johnstone's Derek O'Connor who cost the club £8,000 from East

SEMI-PRO-CAP

He played for an England team of that calibre against Italy in Bolzano. He was on

got right among the honours — but he has played for England at semi-professional level.

the books of Isthmian League side Wycombe Wanderers at the time. Previously a Physical Education teacher before throwing in his lot with soccer.

Leeds-born Pearson has proved of great help to his fellow professionals.

Pearson, who joined Plymouth in July, 1974, was signed by Millwall in August,
1977, and proved his worth last season as The Lions successfully kept the relegation wolf from the door.

He notched a dozen goals in the League, F.A. and Football League Cups.

No more soccer in the States

JOCKY Scott (dark strip), who spent the summer with Seattle Sounders could well be the last Dundee player allowed to go to the States during our closeseason.

Dens Park boss Tommy Gemmell has announced a ban on future trans-atlantic activity because he feels it is not in the best interests of the club.

HAPPY DON

DON Givens, Birmingham City's £145,000 buy from Queens Park Rangers, is very happy about his move to the West Midlands.

The Eire international, who has looked up his old friend, Paddy Mulligan, said:

up his old friend, Paddy Munigan, "I've wanted to leave Rangers for the last

"When my contract expired there was no way I was going to remain with the club."
The reason for his discontent was he was being used in midfield instead of his usual

front running role.

BOBBY Tambling, the former Chelsea star who was with Waterford last season, has joined Shamrock Rovers, Manager Johnny Giles has also secured the ser-vices of Eddie Byrne who was with Gles in Philadelphia during the summer.

GRAND EFFORT

ALAN Gowling and Geoff Nuity didn't exactly enjoy last season at Newcastle. Apart from the St. James' Park club being relegated, Nuity didn't manage a single goal, and Gowling hit only three in the League before moving on to Bolton. Happily both have already hit the target this season, Gowling with a grand effort on the opening day against Bristol City, Nuity on his home debut for Everton against Derby County.

Derby County.

Other players who've scored already after failing to do so in the already after failing to do so in the whole of last season are: Jimmy Mann (Bristol City), Peter Aitken (Bristol Rovers), Jeff Blockley (Notts Co.) Tony Grealish (Orient), Maicolm Lord (Hull City), David Hughes (Lincoln City) Ian Miller (Swindon Town), Alan Wooler (Aldershot), Micky French (Doncaster), Keith Viney (Portsmouth), Alan Bloor (Port Vale), Stuart Lee (Stockport County), and Donal Murphy (Torquay United).

NEWPORT'S HISTORY... in pictures

NEWPORT County's past history is on permanent display in the vice-president's lounge at Somerton Park. There's a photograph from almost every season since the club was formed in 1912.

Six season's are missing . . . 1914-15, 1921-22, 1930-31, 1931-32, 1933-34

and 1934-35

If any readers have photos from those years, or know where they might be, please contact the Newport County Commercial Dept., c/o Somerton Perk Newport More. ton Park, Newport, Mon

The club will return any photo after



This season you can choose from a wider range of Subbuteo accessories than ever before! Here are just a few examples of over 50 exciting accessories that you can add to your Subbuteo game to capture the realism and atmosphere of 'big match' soccer.

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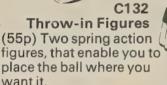


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WHAT BIG MAL IS OUT TO PROVE

HE was a giant at Manchester
Palace. In his time he has been
English soccer's number one rebel, a
gambler, a restless football man
flying off to Turkey and North
America in search of a new goal.
Now, at 50, the question rippling
through the game is that: Has
Malcolm Allison put down roots
again at Plymouth Argyle?
"Yes, I think you could say that,"
concedes the big man. "I've signed a
three-year contract. I like the feel of
the club. They've had two very lean
years here and there is now this
tremendous urge to get moving ahead

three-year contract. I like the feel of the club. They've had two very lean years here and there is now this tremendous urge to get moving ahead. The directors have given me a lot of enthusiasm and support. I think I can do a lob here again."

Allison's move to the West Country, of course, means his life has come full circle. For it was at Argyle back in the early Sixties he first announced a striking gift for coaching, for organising a modestly gifted team into a formidable force.

He went there in the sammer of 1964, stints of coaching at Cambridge University, Sutton United, and Bath City behind him. Argyle had avoided relegation to the Third Division that Spring by 100th of a goal!

The work of the transfer market, including the decision to introduce Tony Book to League football at the age of 32, Allison produced an instantly winning side.

In fact, Allison roduced an instantly winning side.

In fact, killson steered Plymouth Argyle to the Semi-Finals of the League Cup, knocking out Stoke City. Sheffield United, and Northampton on the way. He made a strong challenge for promotion to the First Division. He improvised endlessiy and was the first English manager to play a definite sweeper.

It was impressive work which was blighted only by a certain arrogance of mind which led to rows with directors and the sack at the end of that first extraordinary season.

Now the boardroom-managership relationship appears to be sunny. He got off to a superb start last Spring when he moved to the West Country, promising merely he would help the club avoid the growing threat of relegation to the Fourth Division. He achieved the first objective, creating such an uplift of the spirit that soon a

contract was being pressed on him. Day One of the new season brought more encouragement, a 3-1 win at Chesterfield.

Chesterfield.
Already, too, Allison's knack of successfully converting players to new roles is in evidence. Former Chelsea player Brian Bason has been switched from the left side of midfield to right-back, and is relishing the new job. Alan Rogers, a left-winger by first instinct, is building a new reputation as a left-back.
Fred Binney is a proven goalscorer, Brian Taylor, recommended by Francis Lee, is assertive on the right side of midfield, and young Gary Megson, son of Don, is maturing in the centre of the park. He also paid £22,500 to Palace for young Steve Brennan.

The most searching question to be asked of Malcolm Allison is whether he can maintain a full-blooded interest in the Third Division.

Boredom signs

He became increasingly frustrated at Crystal Palace, though his work of building a new, young club in harness with Terry Venables was clearly geared to an impressive future.

It is also true there were signs of boredom in him when he eventually took full control at Manchester City. It was as though the day-to-day running of a football club tugged at his spirits.

"Wherever you are," he says,

"Wherever you are," he says,
"what you need is a feeling your work
has a chance of being rewarded with
some excitement, some feeling you are
not working in a void. Well,
Plymouth is giving me a good feeling.
I know if we can string a few wins
together there are going to be 20,000
crowds.

crowds.

"I don't think I have anything to prove in a football sense, but perhaps people may have doubted my interest in doing the day-in, day-out fob. It's true in the last few years the idea of doing a trouble-shooting fob has increasingly appealed to me. You know, a club might be floundering a bit, needing someone to come in short-term and pep things up, suggest alternatives.

alternatives.
"But the point is I have told
Plymouth I will do a job for them. It's
a challenging job. A good job, I'm
going to do it."

MARLTON fans are happily onticipating a goal-strewn promotion push this season, and two of the main reasons for their buoyancy are the return of Derek Hales to The Valley, and the spectacular scoring feats of the club's ace marksman, Mike Flanagan, in the North American Soccer League.

Flanagan, on loan to the New England Tea Men, regaled American crowds with an excellent brew of all-round ability and deadly finishing that brought him 30 goals and an award as America's Best Attacking Player of the Year.

When Derby County splashed out £300,000 to take Derek Hales and his 22-carat opportunism from The Valley to the Baseball Ground in December, 1976, the departure of his shooting star didn't leave manager Andy Nelson reaching for his hanky to dry his eyes!

Instead, he moved winger Mike Flanagan into the gap, gave him

when he's having no luck himself."

There can be little doubt Flanagan's prolific goal-grabbing for the New England Tea Men, and the hero-worship of the Boston fans, revived a goal-appetite that seemed distinctly jaded before his early and controversial departure to America before the end of last season, with Charlton perilously close to disappearing down the

Third Division drain.
Says Mike: "Playing for the Tea
Men was a marvellous experience.
I got on very well with my
team-mates and the fans were fabulous. I was scoring regularly, and with the goals, all my zest for

"I've returned very much happier, and a lot more relaxed than when I left, and all I'm concerned about now is carrying on the good work with Charlton, and linking-up with Derek as successfully as we did before his transfer to Derby.

"Once we really click, I'm

Will Hales and Flanagan: make it



the go-for-goals instruction that had made Hales a goalkeeper's nightmare, and by the end of the season Mike was Chariton's leading scorer with 23 League goals.

Last term he again topped the first team scoring charts with an overall tally of 17 hits, and, inevitably, became a target for First Division clubs. Like any other young man whose talent is flourishing in the lower Divisions, Flanagan is ambitious for top-grade soccer, and he is very sincere in his wish he'll make it with Charlton.

"I recently signed a new three-year contract and I'll be perfectly happy to see it out and realise my ambition at The Valley," said Mike.

"I've never been the type to shout about what I'm going to do, how many goals I hope to score. That only makes the job twice as hard. Of course I love sticking them away, but I like to think there is more to my game than that I'm is more to my game than that. I'm a grafter, the type of bloke who can make openings for others

confident the goals will come for both of us. Last season I got 16 League goals in 32 League matches, and picked up an England "B" cap, but I was troubled with a hamstring injury for the second part of the season, and the goals dried up.

"My success with the Tea Men has put me right back on top of the world, and I'm hoping this will be Charlton Athletic's promotion year, and I play well enough to get another chance from England boss Ron Greenwood."

Should 26-year-old Hales, whose move from West Ham cost his former club around £80,000, recapture the slick, murderous finishing that made him a Charlton idol before he slipped on the ski-slope of the First Division, and Flanagan, a year younger, maintain the remarkable scoring flair that also earned him the title of "The Most Valuable Player of the North American Soccer League", it could indeed be a "Happy Valley" for the Charlton fans — "A Valley of Goals", no

THE knockers are at it again. The Second Division is the latest target for the snipers who are suggesting it lacks sparkle and talent.

Without the glamour of a Spurs, Manchester United, Wolves, or Chelsea to liven it up, it's in danger of falling flat and fizzling out into a

mediocre campaign.
At least that's the view of some.
But certainly not the men inside
the game who are competing for
the honours in the Second

In fact the Second Division managers are adamant the current season holds as much intrigue, interest, and competitiveness to hold the fans' interest until the last ball is kicked and the final

promotion place allocated
Who says there isn't any
glamour when Brighton, pipped on
goal average last season by Spurs,
can boast a player of the calibre of
Peter Ward? A goalscorer on the

fringe of the England side and

chased by the top clubs. What about the North-East's glory sides Newcastle United and Sunderland, desperate to rekindle the past traditions and return to

the top flight?
At Roker Park, Sunderland have a fine prospect in Gary Rowell. A tremendous and exciting striker who will cause a few problems to Second Division defences.

And the capital challenge is bright and alive with Trevor
Brooking's West Ham the bookies
and the Second Division managers
clear tip for the top of the table.
There is also Terry Venables,
Crystal Palace with some of the

outstanding youngsters in the country ready to emerge and make a big name for themselves. Full-back Ken Sansom and the black diamond Vince Hilaire are names ready to explode to the

And even Jimmy Bloomfield's

Orient can be a side to be reckoned with after their great start to the season and a 3-0 win over Sunderland that left Roker Park boss Jimmy Adamson gasping: "Orient must be contenders for the Championship.

Just to add a touch of spice Harry Haslam has an Argentinian Import, winger Alex Sabella while Leicester have imported Jock Wallace from Scotland for the purpose of performing a rescue

Ask the Second Division bosses for their views of the League and they'll tell you straight. It's one of the most open and fescinating for

Ask them to pick the eventual three promotion places, and West Ham, Brighton, and Sunderland come out on top with Newcastle just missing out. Here are nine Second Division

managers with their forthright opinions on their Division



Don't heed the knockers-THE SECOND DIVISION IS FIRST-RATE!



ALAN MULLERY (Brighton)

IT doesn't put any undue pressure on me or my players to know most managers in the League are tipping Brighton for promotion, I only wish it would come true.

We've got to prove this season that what occurred last time was not just a flash in the pan.

We've had two great seasons and we want to make it a third. We and we want to make it a third. We just missed out on goal average but this time we aim to make it. But it is a very precarious Division. You've got to be extremely lucky to get out of it.

There are pienty of talented teams to challenge us. Just look at West Ham. Trevor Brooking average the supplier of the property of the property

Frank Lampard are quality players.

JIM ILEY (Blackburn)

I'M afraid I don't rate the chances of my old club Newcastle United very highly. I helped to win them promotion many years ago. I can remember some of the biggest gates and greatest matches were played at St. James' Park in the Second Division days.

I can see hordes of fans flocking there again if Newcastle produced the goods. Sadly I don't think it will have.

But the crowd potential in the North-East for both Newcastle and Sunderland is limitless. A good season for either club would be an enormous boost to the rest of the Division.

But it's Palace that I believe will be the team of the season, because of the young talent there.

JIMMY ADAMSON (Sunderland)

TO try to predict who will finish in the top three places in the Second Division is like trying to win the

Everyone goes into the melting pot and any three could come out

on top.
I feel happier about our chances
this time than I did last season
when everyone was tipping us to
go back to the First Division.

People simply don't appreciate just how tricky it is to get promotion. We suffered with more than our fair share of injuries last season which crippled our hopes. There are too many snags and pitfalls to make it a dull season.

HARRY HASLAM (Sheff. Utd.)

LAST season the Second Division was very very even; there wasn't an awful lot separating the top teams from the bottom. And it's going to be just the same this

In a very open League I wouldn't be at all surprised if my old team Luton finally got back into the First Division.

My other top teams would be Brighton, West Ham, and Newcastle. But it's a difficult choice and I wouldn't be shocked if newly promoted Wrexham came up and gave everyone a fright as Brighton did last season.



JIMMY ANDREWS (Cardiff)

THIS time it's going to be even harder than it was last season. There are some good teams about.

West Ham will emulate Tottenham and bounce straight back up and The Hammers will be a popular crowd pulling side where ever they travel in the country.

And The Hammers' main obstacle to a quick return to the First Division will be their ability to win away from home. That's the biggest question mark over them.

But the Second Division could do them a power of good. They've been struggling on the fringe of relegation for more years than they care to remember. This might be the chance to take a close look at themselves and sort it all out.

NOBBY STILES (Preston)

MY knowledge of the Second Division is limited because this will be my first season in it. We've come up from the Third Division without any fears that we cannot hold our own.

own.

We haven't spent years fighting our way up just to be knocked down again. We shall give a few clubs quite a scare. In fact I want First Division football at Deepdale.

I've got plenty of ambition. Every slub has the capability to win promotion it just needs bringing out. It will be a high quality Division, I'm sure. But I shall be playing it by ear to start with as the League's new boys.

TERRY VENABLES (C. Palace)

JUST look at West Ham and there you have quality players. Whether they can adapt that into a promotion side will be interesting. I doubt it.

Some Second Division clubs have proved they can find the capital to buy big. That's certainly true of Brighton, and that's why I'd be confident to predict that my old mate Alan Mullery will finish on top of the pile.

top of the pile.

The three relegated clubs will all find it hard in this Division. It won't be any picnic.

JOHN LYALL (West Ham)

IT'S a vote of confidence that we should be tipped as the team to top the Second Division. It's good to be so highly rated

to be so highly rated.
It's going to be a tough job. Even
Wrexham, who came up from the
Third Division, have an excellent
chance of getting into the top
three places. Wrexham have
plenty of European experience and
i was very impressed with them.

ALAN DURBAN (Stoke)

AN essential part of the successful make-up of any good side in the Second Division comes from the degree of support the club can muster.

Brighton are among the few who can average 20,000 fans over the season, while West Ham are another.

FOOTBALL FORNIES





"When we were selecting a manager, dear boy, two names cropped up — Brian Clough's and yours!"



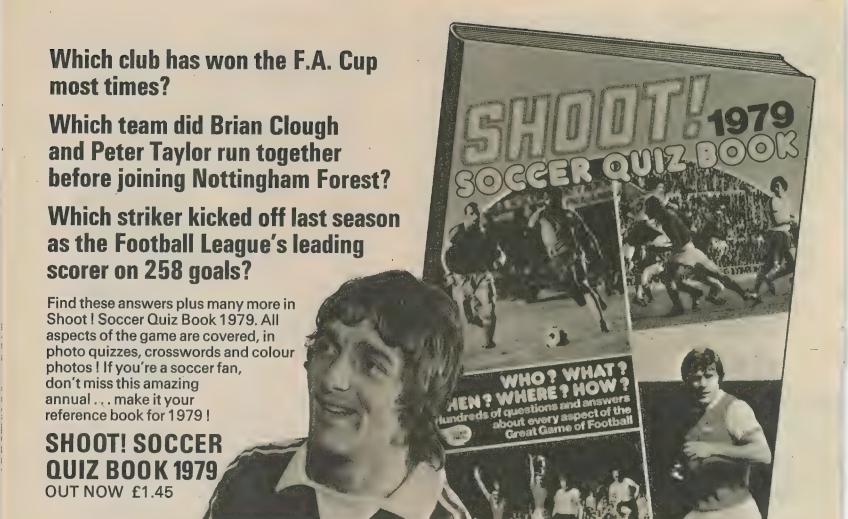
"What an attacking side. Nine full-backs and a midfield centre-forward."



"The boss is very sensitive with the it comes to replacing with the substitute."



"It's a birthday present from the boss."



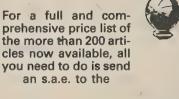
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compiled by JOHN PYKE

IWERD

LIVERPOOL ROLL OF HONOUR

First Division Championship: 1900-01, 1905-06, 1921-22, 1922-23, 1946-47, 1963-64, 1965-66, 1972-73, 1975-76, 1976-77. Second Division Championship: 1893-94, 1895-96, 1904-05, 1961-

F.A. Cup Winners: 1965, 1974. European Cup Winners: 1976-77, 1977-78. U.E.F.A. Cup Winners: 1972-73, 1975-76.

The team Eur

EVERY end of season seems like Christmas for the Anfield supporters. Only the shape of the trophy is in doubt as the Super Reds march victoriously through

A season without an honour of some kind would bring signs of withdrawal symptoms on The Kop and since 1963-64 when they won the League title — just look at their record. More League triumphs fol-lowed in 1965-66, 1972-73, 1975-76 and 1976-77 and that last title set up a new League record of ten League Championships.

League runners-up in 1968-69, 1973-74 and 1974-75. F.A. Cup wins in 1965 and 1974, runners-up in 1971 and 1977 while Liverpool were League Cup runners-up in 1977-78.



It is in Europe, however, that the Anfield club have earned their greatest triumphs. They are the one English team Continental sides dread to meet. This season they seek to join the European greats as they chase a hat-trick of European Cup victories.
This followed their U.E.F.A. Cup

Final wins of 1972-73 and 1975-76 and European Cup-Winners' Cup runners-up spot in 1965-66. This season will be Liverpool's 15th successive season in Europe. No other team in Britain can boast of

Where did it all start? Back in 1892 after a split when a certain team called Everton moved to Goodison and left John Houlding to form Liverpool Football Club.

In 1893 Liverpool were elected to ne Second Division and won



Manager Bob Paisley

promotion at the first attempt only to be relegated straight away. Once again Liverpool came back to the First Division at the first time of asking and won their first League title in 1900-01.

Liverpool were relegated again in 1904 and again won promotion at the first attempt as Champions of the Second Division and went on to win the League Championship the following season in 1905-06. This time it was the start of a long period in the First Division with League titles won in 1921-22 and 1922-23.

The Reds were also the first Champions after World War Two in 1946-47. It was a side packed

with names that will bring back memories for the older Kop fans.

Weish star Cyril Sidlow in goal, Jim Harley and Ray Lambert at full-back, Phil Taylor, Bill Jones and a certain Bob Paisley at half-back. Up-front Liverpool had signed Albert Stubbins from Newcastle in 1946 and he and the bald Jackie Balmer netted 24 League goals each for the club.

With those two were Cyril Done, Willie Fagan and Billy Liddell. Billy was nicknamed "Liddlepool" by his many Mersey admirers. In all he made 492 League appearances for the club and was top scorer in eight seasons.

But Liverpool were to fall into decline and in 1953-54 they finished bottom and were relegated. In December, 1959, Bill Shankly had arrived at Anfield and the rest is recent history, starting with Liverpool winning the Second Division Championship in 1961-62.

One trophy had eluded Liverpool and that was the F.A. Cup. They had been runners-up in 1914 and 1950 and legend had it the club would not win the F.A. Cup until the Liver Bird fell off the Liver Building.

It is hard to believe, but when Liverpool finally beat Leeds 2-1 after extra-time in 1965 the Liver Bird was missing. The 18-foot monument was not on the build-ing. It was down being cleaned! The pride and the passion Liver-

pool supporters have in their team is best illustrated in a true story of the mid 1960's when names like Roger Hunt, Tommy Lawrence, Ron Yeats, Ian Callaghan and Ian St. John were the heroes of The

A local church had a poster out-side reading "What will you do when Christ comes to Liverpool?" Written underneath was the answer from The Kop — "Move Ian St. John to inside-forward."

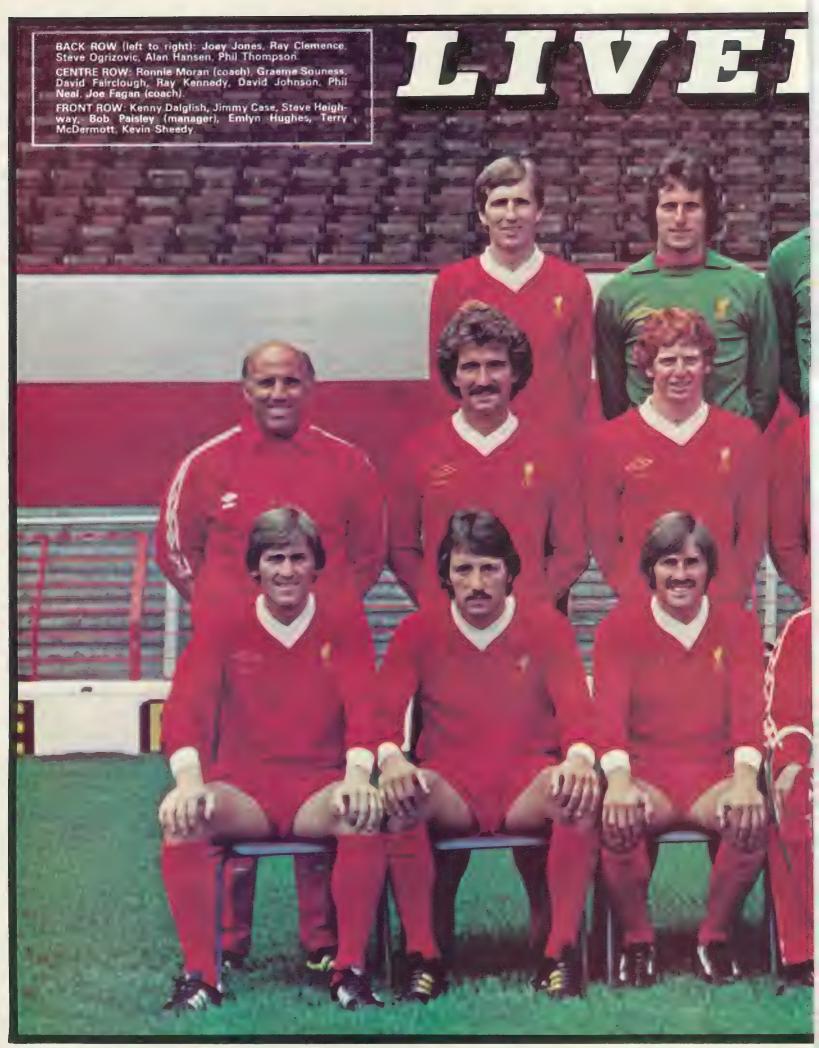
No disrespect to the church, just an example of the wit that has made The Kop famous throughout the World.

LEAGUE FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug 19	OPP	ы	2-1
22	Q.P.R lpswich T	Δ	3-0
26	Man. City	A	4-1
	width. Oily.	***************************************	4.1
Sep 02	Tottenham	н н	7-0
9	Birminghar	n C A	
16	Coventry C	Н	
23	W.B.A	A	
30	W.B.A Boiton W	Н	
Oct			
7	Norwich C.	A	
14	Derby Co	H	
21	Chelsea		
28	Everton	A	
Nov			
4	Leeds U	H	
11 18	Q.P.R.		
22	Man. City Tottenham	Π	
25	Middlesbro	ughH	
Dec	111144100010	ag	
2	Arsenal	Δ	
9	Nottm. For		
16	Bristol C		
23	Wolves	Н	
26	Man. Utd	A	
30	Southampt	tonA	
Jan			
1	Aston Villa		
13	Birmingha	m CḤ	
20	Coventry C	А	
Feb	141 0 4		
3	W.B.A Bolton W	H	
10 17	Norwich C	A	
24	Derby Co	Δ	
Mar	D0107 00	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
3	Cheisea	Δ	
10	Everton	H	
17	Leeds U	A	
24	Leeds U Ipswich T	Н	
31	Middlesbro	oughA	
Apr			
7	Arsenal		
10	Wolves Man. Utd	A	
14	Man. Utd		
16	Aston Villa		
21 28	Bristol C Nottm. For	Δ	
	1401111111111111		
May 5	Southama	ton H	
	Southamp		Longue
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out b	J. 11110310111		



Continued on page 26





CLUB SPOTLIGHT

CONTINUED

PEN PICTURES

(L. App:— League Appearances; G:— Goals; S:— Substitutes; All records to end of the 1977-78 season.)

JIMMY CASE: Will win a match for Liverpool with just one of his tremendous shots. Midfielder or striker who signed professional for Liverpool in May, 1973. Born Liverpool. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 12.7. L. App:— 85 and 6 sub. G:- 12.

RAY CLEMENCE: Goalkeeper who holds the number one spot in the England team. Signed from Scunthorpe United for £20,000 in June, 1967. Born Skegness. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 12.9. L. App:— Scunthorpe 48, Liverpool 346.

KENNY DALGLISH: Striker and top scorer for Liverpool in the 1977-78 season. Scored the goal that won Liverpool the European Cup for the second season running. Beat the Scottish cap record held by Denis Law when he played for Scotland in the 1978 World Cup Finals in Argentina. Cost Liverpool £440,000 when signed from Celtic in August, 1977. Born Glasgow. Ht. 5.8½. Wt. 11.13. L. App:— Celtic 202 and 2 sub. Liverpool 42. G:— Celtic 112, Liverpool 20.



David Fairclough



Kenny Dalglish

DAVID FAIRCLOUGH: Striker and England Under-21 international who also scored in England B's 2-1 victory v. West Germany in February, 1978. Signed professional in January, 1974, and is known as 'Supersub' by the Liverpool supporters. Born Liverpool. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 10.8. L. App:— 43 and 20 sub. G:- 20.

STEVE HEIGHWAY: One of the finest ball-playing strikers in the Football League. Automatic choice for the Republic of Ireland. Signed from Skelmersdale United in May, 1970. Born Dublin. Ht. 5.101/2. Wt. 11.2. L. App:— 280 and 8 sub. G:—

EMLYN HUGHES: Skipper of Liverpool and the only Englishman to have twice led his team to two European Cup victories. Determined defender signed from Black-pool for £65,000 in February, 1967. Current skipper of the England team and finished the 1977-78 season with 54 England caps. Born Barrow. Ht. 5.10½. Wt. 12.9. L. App:— Blackpool 27 and 1 sub, Liverpool 458. G:— Liverpool 35. ALAN HANSEN: Defender signed from Partick Thistle for £100,000 in May, 1977. Born Alloa. Ht. 6.1. Wt. 13.0. L. App:— Partick 82 and 4 sub, Liverpool 18.

DAVID JOHNSON: Striker signed from Ipswich Town for £200,000 in August, 1976. Won three England caps. First team appearances restricted in the 1977-78 season. Born Liverpool. L. App:— Everton 47 and 3 sub, Ipswich 134 and 3

TOP LEAGUE SCORERS

1973-74	Kevin Keegan12
1974-75	John Toshack12
1975-76	John Toshack16
1976-77	Kevin Keegan12
1977-78	Kenny Dalglish20

sub, Liverpool 26 and 12 sub. G:-Everton 11, Ipswich 35, Liverpool

JOEY JONES: Defender signed from Wrexham for £110,000 in July, 1975. Regular Welsh international. Born Llandudno. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 11.7. L. App:— Wrexham 98, Liverpool 72. G:— Wrexham 2,



Phil Neal

ALAN KENNEDY: Left sided defender signed from Newcastle United der signed from Newcastle Onted August, 1978, for £300,000. Eng-land Under-23 and toured New Zealand and the Far East with the England B team in the summer of 1978. Born Sunderland. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 10.7. L. App:— Newcastle 155 and 3 sub. G:— Newcastle 9.

3 sub. G:— Newcastle 9.

RAY KENNEDY: Striker with Arsenal in the 1970-71 'Double' season but converted to an England midfielder by Liverpool. Signed from The Gunners for £180,000 in July, 1974. Born Seaton Deleval. Ht. 6.1. Wt. 13.7. L. App:— Arsenal 156 and 2 sub, Liverpool 134 and 3 sub. G:— Arsenal 53, Liverpool 22.

TERRY McDERMOTT: Midfielder signed from Newcastle United for £175,000 in November, 1974 and won England caps in the 1977-78 season. Born Kirby. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 12.7. L. App:— Bury 83 and 7 sub, Newcastle 55 and 1 sub, Liverpool 82 and 5 sub. G:— Bury 8, Newcastle 6, Liverpool 8.

PHIL NEAL: Defender signed from Northampton Town for £60,000 in October, 1974. Finished the 1977-78 season with 13 full England caps. Born Irchester. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 12.2. L. App:— Northampton 184 and 4 sub, Liverpool 149. G:— Northampton 29, Liverpool 17.

KEVIN SHEEDY: Striker signed from Hereford United in May, 1978, for £80,000 after playing only 51 matches for Hereford as cover for the first team. Born Hereford. Ht. 5.7. Wt. 9.2. L. App:— Hereford 47 and 4 sub. G:— Hereford 4.

GRAEME SOUNESS: Midfielder who created a record English cash transfer signing then when he cost Liverpool £352,000 in January,



Steve Heighway

1978, from Middlesbrough. Many people believe he should have been played in all three of Scotland's World Cup matches in Argentina, and not just the last one v. Holland. Born Edinburgh. Ht. 5.9½. Wt. 11.6. L. App:—Middlesbrough 184 and 2 sub, Liverpool 15. G.—Middlesbrough 22, Liverpool 2.

PHIL THOMPSON: England and Liverpool defender who signed professional in January, 1971. Born Liverpool. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 11.8. L. – 173 and 3 sub. G:— 7.

Anfield machine in top gear

WILL Liverpool complete their hat-trick of European Cup triumphs? Their impressive League start to the new season shows the Anfield machine is full of running again despite their shock exit from the League Cup. They are football's answer to Unipart, but unlike a car that needs a spare part, Liverpool by careful buying ensure the team never falters as they chase the honours each

In the summer they signed Kevin Sheedy from Hereford United for £80,000. At the moment he is almost

unknown, but so were Ray Clemence, Kevin Keegan, Joey Jones and Phil Neal when they arrived at Anfield from lower Division clubs. Major repair jobs are no problem either at Anfield. With Tommy Smith reaching the end of a great career and moving to Swansea City, manager Bob Paisley paid £300,000 for Newcastle United and England 'B' cap Alan Kennedy. Just one game and Kennedy had fitted into the Liverpool side like the missing cog of an engine.

Where do Liverpool go now? That hat-trick of European Cup victories is

now within the reach of the club. If the impossible happens, as far as The Kop is concerned, and Liverpool lose to Forest then there is the League. The Anfield squad is strong enough to make them the major force in the race for the 1978-79 League Championship and their 7-0 Anfield victory over Spurs was sheer perfection. While, of course, they can always find room on that long Anfield sideboard for the F.A. Cup!

Alan Kennedy cost the club £300,000 when signed from Newcastle.



VERTON manager Gordon Lee is renowned for his straight-talking and often blunt approach when discussing football. So when he says something upsets him, Lee means it.

The lean, no-nonsense Midlandborn boss at Goodison Park is angry with people accusing his team of lacking flair and failing to provide entertaining football.

He has, for some time, allowed his players to answer their critics on their own. Compared with the achievements of rivals and neighbours, Liverpool, Everton's record since their last major triumph—the 1970 League Championship is modest. But the club is still one of the top half-dozen in England.

Perhaps if Everton had won something playing their brand of football, the critics would not have voiced their opinions. But the fact is Lee has listened to enough.

He said: "Sometimes I cannot believe what I hear and read. We are accused of lacking flair. Well, I dislike the word anyway. It can mean so many different things. But since it is the word currently over-used, I believe flair is all about putting the ball in the net.

"We played Wimbledon at



Everton's Andy King (left) in action. A tremendous midfielder with an international future in front of him.

four, a driving force when played in midfield and a proven goal-scorer when pushed into the attack; Mike Pejic, a skilful left-back and another England player with four caps; Andy King, wanted by most top clubs and a future international midfield player; Dave Thomas, one of the successful wingers who have brought excitement and attacking football back to the English game...

Lee did not go through his whole squad, choosing instead to put the season, and his time at Goodison Park so far, into perspective.

Park so far, into perspective.

"When I came here in 1977, we were already in the League Cup Semi-Finals and faced Bolton Wanderers. But our League position was disappointing for a club of Everton's standing. Reaching that League Cup Final lifted everyone."

Aston Villa, for when they were

Aston Villa, for whom Lee played as left-back when they won the League Cup in 1961, beating Rotherham 3-2 and left-half when they lost the 1963 Final to Birmingham City 3-1, beat Everton

3-2 in a second replay.

He added: "Looking back on last season gives me considerable satisfaction. We did not win anything, but we finished in our highest League position since 1970 and I feel very confident about this season. Now, I believe I have the squad I want to go for great things.

season. Now, I believe I have the squad I want to go for great things. "We are back in Europe and stand a fair chance of making progress in the U.E.F.A. Cup."

Liverpool's recent magnificent successes are of little interest to Lee. "I am manager of Everton. What other clubs achieve is none of my concern. We must aim to win major honours and win them by playing the sort of football the public want to see.

'Unfavourably'

"We do entertain. I sometimes wonder why people compare our players unfavourably with foreign players. I admire the skills of the foreign players but when it comes to competing in the Football League I would like to see their reactions to playing on a wet and windy mid-winter evening when they are trailing 2-0 away to Blackburn Rovers.

"No, my only concern is Everton. I am making no promises and setting no targets. We have made a good start and the atmosphere at Goodison is tremendous. That is the sort of early-season situation managers dream of."



"He is a brilliant finisher," said Lee, "and one of the most exciting players in the country. He will score goals for anyone at any level."

Stylish midfield organiser Martin Dobson, capped five times by England, scored a hat-trick against Wimbledon and consistently displays his class and composure to

the younger players around him.
"Dobson is elegant, skilful and scores goals," said Lee, "He is one of the most under-rated players in the game."

And so the list goes on — Mike Lyons, outstanding in the back-







next week's game.

Scotland manager Ally MacLeod must bring new faces into his pool.

Willie Johnston and Lou Macari have been banned, so replacements will have to be found for

As you may gather, I'm writing this column before the squad has been announced.

I hope Andy Gray makes the team. Scotland need his power and class against an Austrian side determined not to give anything

away.
Leeds' winger Arthur Graham
might also be given his chance.
Ally MacLeod had Arthur at Aberdeen and wasn't slow to sing his praises.

Really, though, I suppose it all depends on who hits form early on

in the season.

I was delighted Ally MacLeod was given a vote of confidence by the S.F.A. after the traumas and disasters of Argentina.

I've no complaints about the boss whatsoever. He's always treated me fairly and squarely so I'm not going to join the anti-Ally brigade.

When we got home he phoned me almost every day to check on

my knee injury.
Despite all the hostility aimed at him and his family, Aliy still found the time to see if I was okay. How

can I condemn a man like that?
Only when the squad returned from Argentina, read the reports and spoke to our families did we fully realise the extent of Scotland's discrete in the World Conland's disgrace in the World Cup.

REHOVE



Apart from the troubles on and off the park I was very sick at missing the World Cup through injury.

The disappointment was so intense I just couldn't get to sleep at night.

But Argentina is history ... today we must look to the immediate future.

I don't need to tall you how important next week's match is for Scotland. We must get off to a good start in the European Championship to banish the agony of Argentina and to prove to people Scotland are not the dregs of international football and can compete with the best.

As I've said it won't be easy in Vienna, or against Norway, Portugal and Belgium, our other Group Two opponents.

Don't write us off, either.

Everyone is raving about how good England are at the moment. That's fair comment because they have done extremely well under Ron Greenwood. But I honestly believe Scotland can put together a better team than England!

There's no race on earth more determined than the Scots, especially when we are down and

hounded by critics.

I suppose being a small nation makes us more patriotic and passionate, especially where football is concerned.

We are fiery fighters by nature — characteristic which doesn't always help popularise our image abroad.

Trouble has dogged us for years.

Scotland are no Sunday school

Next Wednesday in Vienna we must be on our best behaviour on and off the field. And we will be.

With Bruce Rioch still recovering from his appendicitis operation, there are several candidates available to replace him as skipper.

Last time I captained Scotland was also in the European Championship, against Rumania in Bucharest in June, 1975.

We drew 1-1 and I scored our equaliser, my first for Scotland, with a right foot shot from the edge of the box in the last minute.

Before I leave for Vienna, Man-chester United tackle the Cham-pions Nottingham Forest at Old Trafford this Şaturday (September

I'm really looking forward to this one because believe it or not I've never played against Forest at any level during my career.

I missed last season's League Cup Semi-Final against Forest because I was in dispute with Leeds and manager Jimmy Armfield left me out of the team.

I played under Forest boss Brian Clough during his brief spell at Elland Road.

I got on great with him and was a bit disappointed when the club sacked him after just 44 days.

Cloughie must have liked my style as well because he once tried to sign me for Forest.

Last season they won 4-0 at Old Trafford. Leeds fared better against the title-holders, though, winning 1-0 at Elland Road and drawing 1-1 away.

United will be playing like demons on Saturday to avenge that 4-0 drubbing.

Before I leave you this week, I thought you'd like to know I was invited to play for a World XI against Cosmos, the NASL Champions, in New York recently, to commemorate Pele's first year of retirement.

It was an all expenses paid trip for me and my wife Yvonne. United would have released me, but the game clashed with our League Cup-tie v. Stockport.

Was I choked! Playing for Pele's World team would have helped to compensate for missing the World Cup Finals. In a way I wish I hadn't been told of my selection.

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Manchester United defender.

Answers on page 42. MARTINBULHAN

				0 6	714	174	13 V	CUII	. ,		
	1/1	20	3 [4E		5 1		13	B		8 L
i		95	14	R		ti		10A	E	11'R	A
ı	12.		13,	.1	14		15-72	R	R	0	\
	16 /	17三	E		18	19	L		20		×
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	225	T		23/	H	=	R	24 R	Y		R
	25	E	26		E		27	0	@	28	
	29	R	0	N		30,	@	318	32	R	33
	T		W		34	0	u	5	T)	N
	35/	36.	N	37 ₇	E	R	@	0	@	38	0
	@	5	@	39	W	h:	@	40	E	5	7

ACROSS:

- (1) Ernie Queens Park Rangers defender.
- David —, Leicester City defender.
 ---hill Park, Partick Thistle.
 De-gl-s P--k (Hamilton
- Academicals). Atmosphere from the omissions. (13) Denis —, former Scottish
- international. C----- Road, Norwich.
- --- thams Ground, Darlington.
- Aston V---a.
- Grassland needed to complete --- ton Stadium, London.
- (21) Kevin Beat--- (Ipswich) requires neckwear.
- Johnstone, Scottish club from Muirton Park, Perth.
- (25
- (27)
- Trevor —, Leeds United midfielder.
 ---z. French League Club.
 lan Bri-t-n of Chelsea.
 Newport County, The ----sides.
 --ound--y Par-, Oldham's ground.
 Stewart —, Manchester United (34)
- defending player.
 Norman —, Bristol City defender.
 Frank -taplet-n, Arsenal striker.
 Tony Br--- of West Bromwich
- Albian.
- -- ra-ra-r (Scots club). Birds home from the missing letters.

arrows

DOWN:

- (2) Heart Midlothian Scottish
- John —, W.B.A. defender. John O'H&A: The omissions (4)
- reversed.
- (5) Keith -- ller of Leicester City.
 (6) Colin --- ett of Nottingham Forest.
 (7) George —, Ipswich Town full-back.
 (8) Most clubs have to retain the services of one to sort out their
- legal problems.
 --k-r Park, home of Sunderland.
- Hal--ax; from The Shay ground.
- Peter —, Newcastle United striker. P-ymou-h--gyl-. "Watchful" from the omissions.
- Go in for a competition, for instance.
- Sheffie-d Un-t-d.
- Gordon —, Aston Villa defender. Keith —, Norwich City striker.
- The following of Swindon, Mansfield etc.
- A pass from one side of the playing area to the other, for instance.
- Painful, hard-centred place on the
- Neil Wh--more of Bolton Wanderers.
- S--c-port Cou-ty. Nautical mile from the missing letters.
- -r-x-am. Axe from the missing etters reversed.
- Derby Co-nty play at the Ba-eball
- (37) Brian alb-t of Ipswich.

LTARE

RESULTS SCORERS TEAM LINE-UPS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

FOURTH DIVISION

HUDDERSFIELD D

CREWE 0 CREWE 0 2,938 Huddersfield: Starling; Bransgan, Sandercock, Holmes, Sutton, Topping, Howey, Hart, Fletcher, Harwey, Ripley (McGrellis). Crewe: Brand; Bevan, Purdie, Wilshaw, Bowles, Rimmer, Davies, Roberts, Nelson,

PORTSMOUTH (0) 0 BRADFORD C (1) 1 (Jackson) 8,268 Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Viney, Denyer, Foster, Hand, Hemmerman (Garwood), Lathan, Davey, McIlwraith, Puller.

Bradford C: Downsborough; Reaney, Wood, odd, Baines, Middleton, Bates, Dolan, Jackson, McNiven, Hutchins,

PORT VALE (1) 2 (Wright, Bromage) SCUNTHORPE (0) 2 (Wigg, Pilling) 3,025 Port Vale: Connaughton; Wilkinson, Grif-fiths, Todd, Sproson, Hawkins, Stenson, Bromage, Wright, Beamish (Chamberlain), Bentley Scunthorpe: Crawford; Davey, Peacock, Oates, Deere, Czuczman, Grimes, Kilmore (Bloomer), Wigg, Keeley, Pilling.

ROCHDALE (0) 1 (Scaife)

YORK (1) 2 (Staniforth, Randall) 1,241
Rochdale: Slack; Hallows, Snookes, Hart
(Esser), Scott, Bannon, Scaife, Mullington,

Ashworth, Owen, O'Loughlin.
York: Neenan; Scott, Kay, Young, Faulkner, Clements, Stronach, Randall, Loggie, McDonald, Staniforth (Warnock).

STOCKPORT (3) 3 (Bradd 2, Craig o.g.)
DARLINGTON (0) 0 3,626
Stockport: Rogan; Thorpe, Rutter, Thompson, Park, Fogarty, Summerbee, Goodfellow, Bradd (Halford), Loadwick, Lee.
Darlington: Burleigh; Nattress, Crosson/Hague, Craig, Stone, Maitland, Lyons, Seal, Probert, Seal, Wann.

TORQUAY (0) 0 NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Liddle) Torquay: Turner; Twitchin, Parsons, Wilson reen, Vassallo, Coffill, Darke, Lawrence, Murphy, Raper.

pny, raper. Northampton: Jayes; Geidmintis, Mead, Woollett, Wassell, Bryant, Farrington, Wil-liams, Reilly, Liddle, Christie.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

ABERDEEN (1) \$ (Harper 3)
MORTON (1) 1 (Ritchie)
Aberdeen: Leighton; Kennedy, McLelland,
McMaster, Garner, Miller, Sullivan, Archibald,
Harper, Jarvie, Davidson (Scanlon)
Morton: Connaghan; Hayes, Holmes, Anderson, Orr, Rooney, Russell, Miller, McLean
(Rae), Scott, Ritchie.

CELTIC (2) 4 (McAdam, Burns, Conn 2)

HEARTS (0) 0 24,000
Celtic: Latchford; Filippi, Lynch, Aitken, McDonald, Edvaldsson, Doyle (Wilson), Glavin, McAdam, Burns (Casey), Conn.
Hearts: Dunlop; Kidd, Fraser, McNicoll, Jeferies, Liddell, Robertson (Park), Bannon, Gib-

son, Shaw (Tierney), Prentice

RANGERS 0 Hibs: McDonald; Kilgour, Smith, Bremher, Fleming, McNamara, Murray (O'Brien), McLeod, Duncan, Callachan (Rae), Higgins. Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Forsyth (A), Forsyth (T), Johnstone, MacDonald, McLean, Russell, Parlane, Smith, Urquhart (Miller).

PARTICK (0) 1 (Houston)
DUNDEE UTD (1) 1(Frye)
Partick: Rough; McKinnon, Whittaker, Campell, Marr, Anderson (O'Hara), Houston, Melrose, Somner, Gibson (Sheed), McDonald.
Dundee U: McAlpine; Stark, Stewart, Robinson, Hegarty, Narey, Sturrock, Addison, Frye, Holt, Payne.

ST. MIRREN (0) 0 MOTHERWELL (1) 1 (Stevens)

St. Mirren: McLean; Young, Munro, Fitzpat rick, Dunlop, Copland, Hyslop (Torrance), Richardson, Bone, Abercrombie, McGarvey, Motherwell: Latchford; Millar, Wark, Boyd,

Mackin, Stevens, Marinello, Lindsay (McLeod), Larnach, McLaren, Clinging (Somerville).

MONDAY, AUG. 21

THIRD DIVISION

BRENTFORD (1) 1 (Kruse) COLCHESTER (0) 0

Brentford: Porter; Tucker, Allen, Shrubb, Kruse, Graham (W), Carlton, Graham (J), All-

der, McCulloch, Phillips.
Colchester: Walker; Cook, Packer, Leslie,
Wignall, Dowman, Foley, Gough, Sharkey,
(Dyer), Rowles, Allinson.

MANSFIELD (0) 1 (Bird)

MANSFIELD (0) 1 (Bird)
GILLINGHAM (0) 1 (Price) 5,745
Mansfield: Arnold; Bird, Foster (B), Coffey
(Wood), Saxby, McClelland, Miller, Martin,
Syrett, Hodgson, Allen.
Gillingham: Hillyard; Knight (Westwood),
Armstrong, Overton, White, Crabbe, Nicholl,
Weatherly, Price, Richardson, Walker.

TRANMERE (1) 1 (Peplow)
SWINDON (0) 1 (Carter)
Tranmere: Johnson; Mathias, Flood, Parry,
Bramhall, Evans, Palios, O'Neil (Kerr), Moore,

Peplow, McAuley.
Swindon: Ogden; McLaughlin, Ford,
McHale, Aizlewood, Stroud, Miller (Lewis), Certer, Kamara, Bates, Williams.

TUESDAY, AUG. 22

FIRST DIVISION

BIRMINGHAM (1) 1 (Bertschin) MIDDLESBROUGH (3) 3 (Armstrong, Ashcroft,

Mills)

Birmingham: Montgomery; Calderwood,
Emmanuel, Towers, Gallagher, Broadhurst,
Barrowclough, Francis, Bertschin, Fox (Ainscow), Givens.
Middlagham

cow), Givens.
Middlesbrough: Stewart; Craggs, Bailey,
Mahoney, Boam, Ramage, Mills, Procter,
Ashcroft, Woof, Armstrong.

BRISTOL C (0) 1 (Cormack pen.)

NORWICH (1) 1 (Ryan pen.) 19,274
Bristol C: Shaw; Sweeney, Cooper, Mann,
Rodgers, Hunter, Tainton, Ritchie, Royle, Cor-

mack, Garland (Whitehead).
Norwich: Keelan; Bond, Sullivan, Ryan, Hoadley, Powell, Neighbour, Reeves, Chivers, Robson, Peters.

COVENTRY 0

NOTTM FOREST 0 NOTTM FOREST 0 28,622 Coventry: Sealey; Osgood, McDonald, Beck, 'Holton, Gillespie (Green), Nardjello, Wallace, Ferguson, Powell, Hutchison. Nottm F: Shilton; Anderson, Barrett, McGovern, Needham, Byrns, O'Neill, Gemmill,

Elliott, Woodcock, Robertson.

EVERTON (0) 2 (King, Nulty)

DERBY (1) 1 (Nish)

Everton: Wood; Darracott, Pejic,

Wright, Nulty, King, Dobson, Latchford, Walsh, Thomas. Derby: Middleton; Langan, Buckley, Daly, McFarland, Todd, Powell, Nish, Ryan, George,

IPSWICH (0) 0
LIVERPOOL (2) 3 (Souness, Dalglish 2) 28,114
Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Talbot
(Gates), Osman, Wark, Parkin, Muhren,
Mariner, Whymark, Woods.
'Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A),
Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hughes, Dalglish,
Case, Heighway, McDermott, Souness.

ARSENAL (1) 1 (Macdonald) 39,506
Man. C: Corrigan; Clements, Donachie,
Keegan, Watson, Futcher (P), Channon, Power,

Kidd, Hartford, Barnes. Arsenal: Barron; Rice, Nelson, Price, O'Leary, Young, Devine, Sunderland, Mac-donald, Stapleton, Walford.

W. B. A. (0) 1 (Howe o.g.) 15,48° Q.P.R.: Parkes; Clement, Gillard, Hollins Howe, Shanks, Eastoe, Francis, Busby 15,481



A goal from David Mills helped Middlesbrough to a comfortable 3-1 win at Birmingham City.

(McGee), Bowles, James.

W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Brown (T), Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Cantello, Cunningham.

SOUTHAMPTON (1) 2 (MacDougall, Baker)
BOLTON (1) 2 (Worthington 2) 21,059
Southampton: Wells; Golac, Peach, Williams, Nicholl, Waldron, Ball, Boyer, MacDougall, Baker, Curran (Hebberd).
Bolton: McDonagh; Nicholson, (Jones P.), Dunne, Greaves, Walsh, Allardyce, Morgan, Whatmore, Gowling, Worthington, Train.

WOLVES (9) 0

CHELSEA (1) 1 (Langley)

Wolves: Bradshaw; Daniel, Palmer, Parkin,
Hazell (Bell), McAlle, Hibbitt, Carr, Eves, Raf-

ferty, Daley. Chelsea: Bonetti; Locke, Harris, Hay, Droy, Wicks, Swain, Wilkins (R), Langley, Stanley, Walker.

SECOND DIVISION

BRIGHTON (0) 0 BRIGHTON (0) 0 CAMBRIDGE (0) 2 (Streete, Winstanley o.g.) 21,548

Brighton: Steele; Tiler, Williams, Horton,

crignton: Steele; Iller, Williams, Horton, Winstanley (Towner), Lawrenson, Sayer, Ward, Maybank, Clark, O'Sullivan. Cambridge: Webster; Howard, Smith, Streete, Graham, Fallon, Cozens, O'Neill, Mur-ray, Finney, Biley.

CHARLTON (1) 1 (Hales)

CHARLTON (1) 1 (Hales)
BURNLEY (1) 1 (Cochrane) 8,580
Charlton: Wood; Campbell, Berry (Peacock),
Tydeman, Shaw, Dugdale, Brisley, Hales,
Flanagan, Madden, Gritt.
Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Noble,
Thomson, Rodaway, Cochrane, Ingham,
Fletcher, Kindon, Smith.

PALACE (1) 3 (Swindlehurst, Hilaire, Murphy)
LUTON (1) 1 (Fuccillo pen.) 17,639
Palace: Burridge; Hinshelwood, Sansom,
Chatterton, Cannon, Gilbert, Nicholas, Murphy,

Swindlehurst, Elwiss, Hilaire. Luton: Aleksic; Stephens, Sherlock, Donaghy, Turner, Aizlewood, Hill, Fuccillo (Ingram), Stein, Hatton, Moss.

WREXHAM (0) 1 (Lyons)

Fulham: Peyton; Evans, Strong, Lock, Ban-on, Gale, Bullivant, Davies, Mahoney, Money, Evanson (Boyd).

Wrexham: Davies; Evans (Lyons), Dwyer, Davis, Roberts, Thomas, Shinton, Sutton, McNeil, Whittle, Cartwright.

MILLWALL (1) 1 (Lee) Notts Co: McManus; Richards, O'Brien, Ben-

Notes Co: McManus; Hickards, Obern, Beirl, Beirjamin, Blockley, Stubbs, Carter, McVay, McCulloch, Mann (Green), Vinter.
Millwall: Cuff; Donaldson, Moore, Allen, Kitchener, Hazell, Hamilton (B), Mehmet, Mitchell, Pearson, Lee.

OLDHAM (1) 3 (Halom, Chapman, Taylor)
BRISTOL R (0) 1 (Gould) 6,005
Oldham: McDonnell; Wood, Blair, Bernard,
Holt (Gardner), Hurst, Heaton, Taylor, Young,

Halom, Chapman. Bristol R: Thomas; Aitken, Bater, Pulis, Taylor, Williams, Prince, Dennehy (Jones), Gould, Randell, Barry.

ORIENT (1) 3 (Hughton, Mayo, Grealish)

SUNDERLAND (0) 0 7,373
Orient: Jackson; Fisher, Roffey, Grealish, Gray, Hughton, Chiedozie (Godfrey), Banjo, Mayo, Kitchen, Bennett.
Sunderland: Siddall; Henderson, Bolton, Chisholm (Lee), Elliott, Ashurst, Kerr, Docherty,

Entwistle, Rostron, Rowell.

PRESTON (2) 4 (Robinson, Doyle, Bruce 2)

PRESTON (2) 4 (Robinson, Doyle, Bruce 2) BLACKBURN (1) 1 (Gregory) . 15,412
Preston: Tunks; Cameron (Smith), Wilson, Doyle, Baxter, Cross) Burns, Haslegrave, Robinson, Thomson, Bruce.
Blackburn: Butcher; Hird, Bailey, Fowler, Keeley, Waddington, Metcaffe (Brotherston), Gregory, Radford, Parkes, Aston.

THIRD DIVISION

BURY (0) 3 (Farrell, Tucker, Rowland)

SOUTHEND (1) 3 (Morris 2, Laverick) 3,243 Bury: Forrest; Keenan, Kennedy, Lugg, Tucker, Wilson, Stanton, Farrell, Rowland, Hil-

Tucker, Wilson, Statistics ton, Taylor. Southend: Cawston; Dudley, Ystes, Laverick, Hadley, Moody, Morris, Pountney, Parker, Goodwin, Fell.

CARLISLE (0) 1 (Kemp) CHESTERFIELD (0) 1 (Fern)

Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney, Ludlam, Tait, Perker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Kemp, Lumby, Hamilton. Chesterfield: Letheran; Tartt, Burton, Hunter, Cottam, O'Neill, Cammack, Kowalski, Fern, Sal-mons, Walker.

SWANSEA (2) 3 (Charles, Curtis, Waddle)

SWANSEA (2) 3 (Charles, Curtis, Waddle)
LINCOLN (0) 16,704
Swanses: Crudgington; Evans, Bartley,
Smith, Bruton, Charles (James, A.), Toshack,
James (R), Curtis, Waddle, Moore.
Lincoln: Grotier; Wright, Leigh, Hubbard
(Flemming), Smith, Cooper, Hobson, Sunley,
Harford, Hughes, Ward.

WATFORD (3) 5 (Mercer, Jenkins 3, Joslyn)
BLACKPOOL (1) 1 (Wilson) 11,812
Watford: Rankin; Stirk, Pritchett, Booth, Bolton, Garner, Downes, Mercer, Jenkins, Joslyn,

ton, garner, Downes, Mercer, Jenkins, Josiyn, Pollard. Blackpool: Ward; Gardner, Thompson, Wil-son, Suddaby, McEwan, Waldron (Chandler), Tong, Spence, Davidson, Wagstaffe.

FOURTH DIVISION

DARLINGTON (0) 1 (Lyons) HUDDERSFIELD (0) 0

Darlington: Burleigh; Nattress, Cochrane, ague, Craig, Stone, Maitland, Lyons, Seal,

Huddersfield: Starling; Branagan, Sander-cock, Holmes, Sutton, Topping, Armstrong, Hart, Fletcher, Hanvey, McGrellis (Ripley).

HALIFAX (9) 2 (Bell, Bullock)
STOCKPORT (1) 1 (Lee)
2,253
Halifax: Leonard; Trainer, Loska, Smith,
Burke, Dunleavy, Nixon, Johnston, Bullock,

Lawson, Bell. Stockport: Rogan; Thorpe, Rutter, Thompson, Park, Fogarty, Summerbee, Goodfellow (Halford), Bradd, Loadwick, Lee.

NEWPORT (1) 1 (Williams)

ALDERSHOT (2) 2 (Dungworth, Brodie) 3,374
Newport: Plumley: Warriner, Relish, Byrne,
Walker, Davies, Armstrong, Woods, Goddard,
Thompson, Williams (Clark).

Aldershot: Johnson; Edwards, Wooler, Dixon, Youlden, Jopling, Longhorn, Brodie, Hooper, Dungworth, McGregor (Howitt).

SCUNTHORPE (0) 1 (Pilling)

SCUNTHORPE (0) 1 (Pilling)
BOURNEMOUTH (0) 0 / 2,433
Scunthorpe: Crawford; O'Donnell, Peacock,
Oates (Bloomer), Deere, Czuczman, Grimes,
Kilmore, Wigg, Keeley, Pilling,
Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Miller,
Impey, Brown (R), Butler (G), Johnson, Show-

ers, Butler (M), Massey, Brown (K).

WIMBLEDON (1) 1 (Cork) PORT VALE (0) 0

2.638

Wimbledon: Goddard; Bryant, Eames, Galliers, Galvin, Donaldson, Leslie, Briley, Connell,

Cork, Parsons.
Port Vale: Connaughton; Wilkinson, Griffiths, Bentley, Sprowson, Hawkins, Bromage, Todd (Bloor), Wright, Froggatt, Stenson.

YORK (1) 5 (Staniforth 2, Randall 2, Loggie) PORTSMOUTH (1) 3 (Hemmerman 2, Viney 2,513

York: Neenan; Scott, Kay, Stronach, Faulk-er, Clements, Young, Randall, Loggie,

rork: Neenan; Scott, Ray, Stronach, Paulicener, Clements, Young, Randall, Loggie, McDonald, Staniforth.
Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Viney, Denyer, Foster, Hand (Wilson), Hemmerman, Lathan, Davey, McIlwraith, Pullar.

LEAGUE CUP (First Round Replays)

SHEFF. WED (1) 1 (Hornsby) 8,472
Doncaster: Peacock; Owen, Robinson,
Olney, Bradley, Taylor, Habbin, Lewis, Snodin, French, Laidlaw

Sheff. Wed: Bolder; Blackhall (Owen), Grant, Rushbury, Dowd, Smith, Mullen, Porterfield, Tynan, Johnson, Hornsby.

PETERBOROUGH (0) 1 (Butlin) 4,996
Hull: Wealands; Nisbet, DeVries, Croft, Dob-son, Haigh, Hood, Horswill, Edwards, Bannis-

ter, Farley.
Peterborough: Waugh; Carmichael, Styles, Doyle, Green, Ross, Slough, McEwan, Butlin, Anderson, Robson,

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 23

FIRST DIVISION

LEEDS (1) 2 (Hart, Gray F. pen)
MAN. UTD (2) 3 (McQueen, McIlroy, Macari)

36,845
Leeds: Harvey; Stevenson, Gray (F), Flynn,
Harris, Madeley, Harris, Hankin, Gray (E), Currie,
Graham Graham.

Man. U: Roche; Greenhoff (B), Albiston, McIlroy, McQueen, Buchan, Coppell, Greenhoff (J), Jordan, Macari, McCreery.

TOTTENHAM (0) 1 (Hoddle pen.)
ASTON VILLA (1) 4 (Evans A, Gregory, Little, Shelton)
Tottenham: Daines; McAllister, Gorman, Hoddle, Lacy, Perryman, Villa, Ardiles, Armstrong, Moores, Taylor.
Villa: Rimmer; Gidman, Smith, Evans (A), McMaughes, Marking, Shelton, Little, Gregory

McNaught, Mortimer, Shelton, Little, Gregory, Cowans, Carrodus.

SECOND DIVISION

LEICESTER (0) 0 SHEFF. UTD (0) 1 (Mathews)

Whitworth, Leicester: Wallington; Whitworth, Rofe, Webb, O'Neill, Kelly, Hughes; Williams, Christie, Davies (Goodwin), Armstrong.

Sheff. U: Conroy; Cutbush, Garner, Kenwor thy, Matthews, Speight, Woodward, Keeley, Finnieston, Hamson, Sabella.

NEWCASTLE (0) 0

WEST HAM (1) 3 (Devonshire, Cross, Rob-

Newcastle: Mahoney; Kelly, Barker, Cassidy, Bird, Blackley, Walker, Suggett, Pearson, Hibbitt. Connolly.

West Ham: Ferguson; Lampard, Brush, Holland, Taylor (T), Bonds, Curbishley, Devonshire, Cross, Brooking, Taylor (A), Robson.

STOKE (0) 2 (Busby, Smith)

CARDIFF (0) 0 Stoke: Jones; Marsh, Scott, Kendall, Smith, Doyle, Waddington (Dodd), Irvine, Busby,

Crooks, Richardson.
Cardiff: Davies; Thomas, Pethard, Campbell,
Went, Roberts, Giles, Burns, Dwyer, Bishop,

THIRD DIVISION

CHESTER (1) 2 (Phillips, Mellor pen.)
WALSALL (1) 1 (Kelly) 4,257
Chester: Lloyd; Raynor, Walker, Storton, Jeffries, Oakes, Delgado, Livermore, Edwards, Mellor, Phillips.

Mellor, Phillips.
Walsall: Kearns; Paul, Caswell, Harrison,
Serella, King, Birch, Macken, Austin, Buckley,

OXFORD (0) 0 SHREWSBURY (0) 1 (Turner) 3.877 Oxford: Burton; Kingston, Fogg, Briggs, McIntosh, Jeffrey, McGrogan, Taylor, Foley,

Seacole, Duncan.
Shrewsbury: Mulhearn; King, Leonard,
Turner, Griffin, Hayes, Loughnane, Lindsay,
Atkins, Biggins, Maguire.

FOURTH DIVISION

BRADFORD C (2) 2 (Hutchins, Dolan) 5,376 HEREFORD (0) 1 (Holmes K.)



West Ham's Alan Taylor put his side 1-0 up against Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park. The match finished 1-1.

Bradford: Downsborough; Reaney, Wood,

Bradioris: Jownsburdungh; healing, vedou, Bates, Baines, Middleton, Podd, Dolan, Jack-son, McNiven (Martinez), Hutchins. Hereford: Hughes; Burrows, Price, Cornes, Marshall, O'Hara, Holmes (W), Holmes (K), Jones, Spiring, Barton.

CHEWE (0) 0

BARNSLEY (1) 2 (Clarke, Peachey) 2,500

Crewe: Caswell; Bevan, Roberts, Rimmer,
Bowles, Wilshaw, Davies, Purdie, Nelson,
Coyne (Hughes), Tully,
Barnsley: Springett; Collins, Chambers,

Barnsley: Springett; Collins, Chambers, Pugh, Saunders, McCarthy, Little, Clarke, Riley, Millar, Peachey.

NORTHAMPTON (1) 1 (Farrington)
HARTLEPOOL (1) 1 (Newton) 4,288
Northampton: Jayes; Geidmintis, Mead,
Woollett, Reilly, Bryant, Farrington, Williams,
Wassell (Walker), Liddle, Christie.

Hartlepool: Platt; Smith (T), Gorry, Smith (G), Brooks, Ayre, Linacre, Lawrence, Newton, Crumplin (Goldthorpe), Guy.

READING (1) 2 (Earles, Hetzke)

ROCHDALE (0) 0 4,267 Reading: Death; Peters, White, Bowman, 4.267 Hicks, Bennett, Earles, Hetzke, Kearns, San-

Chez, Lewis.
Rochdale: Shyne; Hallows, Snookes, Hart, Scott, Scatife, Owen, Hoy (Esser), Ashworth, Mullington, O'Loughlin.

WIGAN (0) 0

GRIMSBY (2) 3 (Donovan 2, Moore)

Wigan: Brown; Gore, Hinnigan, Davids, Ward, Gillibrand, Corrigan, Wright, Houghton,

Gay, Purdie.
Grimsby: Batch; Mawer, Moore, Waters, Barker, Crombie, Ford, Donovan, Lester, Mitchell, Cumming (Liddell).

SCOTTISH LEAGUE (First Round Second Leg)

RANGERS (1) 1(Parlane)

Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Forsyth (A), Forsyth (T) (Miller), Johnstone, MacDonald, Strickland, Russell, Parlane, Smith, Urquhart.

CELTIC (2) 3 (Doyle 2, Conn) Celtic: Latchford; Fillipi, Lynch, Aitken, McDonald, Edvaldsson, Doyle (Casey), Glavin, McAdam, Burns, Conn

MONTROSE (1) 1 (Murray)

ST. JOHNSTONE 0

ST. MIRREN (1) 2 (Bone 2)

DUMBARTON (0) 0
St. Mirren: Thomson; Beckett, Munro, Fitzpatrick, Dunlop, Young, Hyslop, Abercrombie, Bone, Richardson, McGarvey.

STIRLING (0) 0 ALLOA (0) 1 (Steele)

1.600

1.500

1,500

FRIDAY, AUG. 25

FOURTH DIVISION

CREWE (1) 1 (Bowles)
PORT VALE (2) 5 (Wright 3, Bloor, Beamish)

Crewe: Csswell; Bevan, Cheetham, Purdie, Bowles, Wilshaw, Davies, Roberts, Nelson, Coyne, Tully.
Port Vale: Dance; Wilkinson, Bentley, Bloor, Sprowson (Froggatt), Hawkins, Chemberlain, Bromage, Wright, Beamish, Ştenson.

HARTLEPOOL (1) 1 (Crumplin)
PORTSMOUTH (0) 1 (Davey) 3,074
Hartlepool: Platt; Smith (T), Gorry, Smith (G)
(Goldthorpe), Brooks, Ayre, Linacre, Houchen,

Newton, Crumplin, Guy.
Portsmouth: Mellor; Wilson, Viney, Denyer, Foster, Piper, Hemmerman, Lathan, Davey, McIlwraith, Garwood (Fuller).

SCUNTHORPE (2) 3 (Pilling, Grimes, Kilmore) HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1 (Hanvey) 3,029 Scunthorpe: Crawford; O'Donnell, Peacock,

Scunnorpe: Crawford; O'Donnell, Peacock, Gibson, Deere, Czuczman, Grimes, Kilmore, Wigg, Keeley, Pilling.
Huddersfield: Starling; Branagan, Sandercock, Holmes, Sutton, Topping, Gray, Hart, Fletcher (Ripley), Hanvey, Bielby.

SATURDAY, AUG. 26

FIRST DIVISION

BIRMINGHAM (1) 1 (Givens)

DERBY (1) 1 (Daly) 21,963
Birmingham: Montgomery; Page, Pendrey, Barrowclough, Gallagher, Broadhurst, Gallagher, Bricis, Bertschin, Francis, Emmanuel.

Ainscow.
Derby: Middleton; Langan, Buckley, Daly, McFarland, Daniel, Powell (Chesters), Nish, Ryan, George, Hill.

BRISTOL C (0) 1 (Rodgers)
ASTON VILLA (0) 0.
Bristol C: Shaw; Gillies, Whitehead, Pritchard, Rodgers, Hunter, Tainton, Ritchie, Royle,

Mann, Sweeney.
Villa: Rimmer; Gidman, Smith, Evans (A),
McNaught, Mortimer, Shelton (Shaw), Little,
Gregory, Cowans, Carrodus.

COVENTRY (2) 4 (Beck, Powell, Wallace, Fer-

guson) NORWICH (0) 1 (Peters) Coventry: Sealey; Osgood, McDonald, Beck, Holton, Gillespie, Nardiello (Bannister), Wal-lace, Ferguson, Powell, Hutchison.

Norwich: Keelan; Bond, Sullivan, Ryan, Hoadley, Powell, Neighbour, Reeves, Chivers, Robson, Peters.

EVERTON (0) 1 (Thomas) ARSENAL (0) 0

41.179 41,179
Everton: Wood; Darracott, Pejic, Lyons, Wright, Nulty, King, Dobson, Latchford, Walsh,

Arsenal: Barron; Rice, Nelson, Price, O'Leary, Young, Bredy, Sunderland, Macdonald, Stapleton, Devine (Walford).

IPSWICH (1) 3 (Mariner 2, Talbot) MAN. UTD (0) 0

21.894

MAN. UTD (0° 21,894 | 19swich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Talbot, Osman, Beattie, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Whymark, Woods. Man. U: Roche; Greenhoff (8), Albiston, McIlroy, McQueen, Buchan, Coppell, Greenhoff (J), Jordan, Macari, McCreery (McGreeth)

LEEDS (2) 3(Hankin, Gray F. pen., Currie)

WOLVES (0) 0 26,267 Leeds: Stewart; Stevenson, Gray (F), Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Harris (Hawley), Gray (E), Han-kin, Currie, Graham. Wolves: Bradshaw; Daniel, Palmer, Parkin, Berry, McAlle, Hibbitt, Carr, Richards, Rafferty,

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the dramatic improvement in international results since Ron Greenwood took charge of England, the whole country will be expecting a resounding victory over Denmark in the European Championship match in Copenhagen on September 20.

Yet in a way the more significant result may be achieved 24 hours earlier in a stadium not half-an-

hour away.

It's there that the new young breed of English footballer will be showing his paces, and the result of the Under-21's battle with the Danes is in many ways more of a pointer to their future hopes of

success.

If England are to make an impact in the 1982 World Cup in Spain it's likely that the men leading the way will be those on duty on the Tuesday rather than the Wednesday in Copenhagen — then perhaps fans can sing about this Wonderful Wonderful city!

Too strong

Denmark v England, European Under-21's Championship, September 19th

1982 World Cup build-up starts next wee

be bursting to show their paces to Ron Greenwood. When the England manager got his team together last season and put long-time friend Dave Sexton in charge of the Under-21's, he knew he was appointing a man who had a flair for bringing out the best in youth.

This much was patently obvious when the youngsters went into action against Norway at Brighton and hammered home six of the best — three from local hero Peter

Ward, a couple from Villa's John Deehan and the sixth from Peter Barnes.

Since then Barnes has gone on to win full international honours,

of course, and others who played at the Goldstone Ground that night may not be far behind. Sexton knows he has the cream of England's future at his disposal and he intends to nurture the

Under his watchful eye players like Steve Sims, Steve Williams,

Paul Futcher and Paul Bradshaw

Paul Futcher and Paul Bradshaw flourished last season. After that 6-0 triumph, Finland were whipped even more handsomely 8-0 at Hull. Italy were beaten in the Quarter-Finals of the previous European Under-21's Championship, and although defeat eventually came at the hands of Yugoslavia, it was a year of considerable progress for England's young hopes.

Budding talents like Viv Anderson (Nottingham Forest), Kevin Reeves (Norwich), Peter Reid (Bolton), Peter Daniel (Wolves), Graham Rix (Arsenal) and Andy King (Everton) are beginning to make their mark and much will be expected of them in the future.

Ambition

This season — perhaps starting in Copenhagen — will no doubt produce more youthful enterprise and ambition. One of the most exciting developments is always that of the young player making his mark and among others who could come to the fore this season are Ken Sansom, Crystal Palace's brilliant young full-back; Paul Randall, dashing discovery at Bristol Rovers; Gordon Cowans, frail but fleet of foot in the Villa midfield; Alan Devonshire tireless in times of trouble at West Ham; Mark Higgins, young colossus in the Everof trouble at West Ham; Mark Higgins, young colossus in the Everton defence; David Fairclough, still maturing in the cultured cradle of Liverpool; Stan Cummins, diminutive but dazzling with Middlesbrough; Roger Palmer, Manchester City's goalscoring discovery; Cyrille Regis (West Brom) and Bob Hazell (Wolves) three more of the young black power members in our game.





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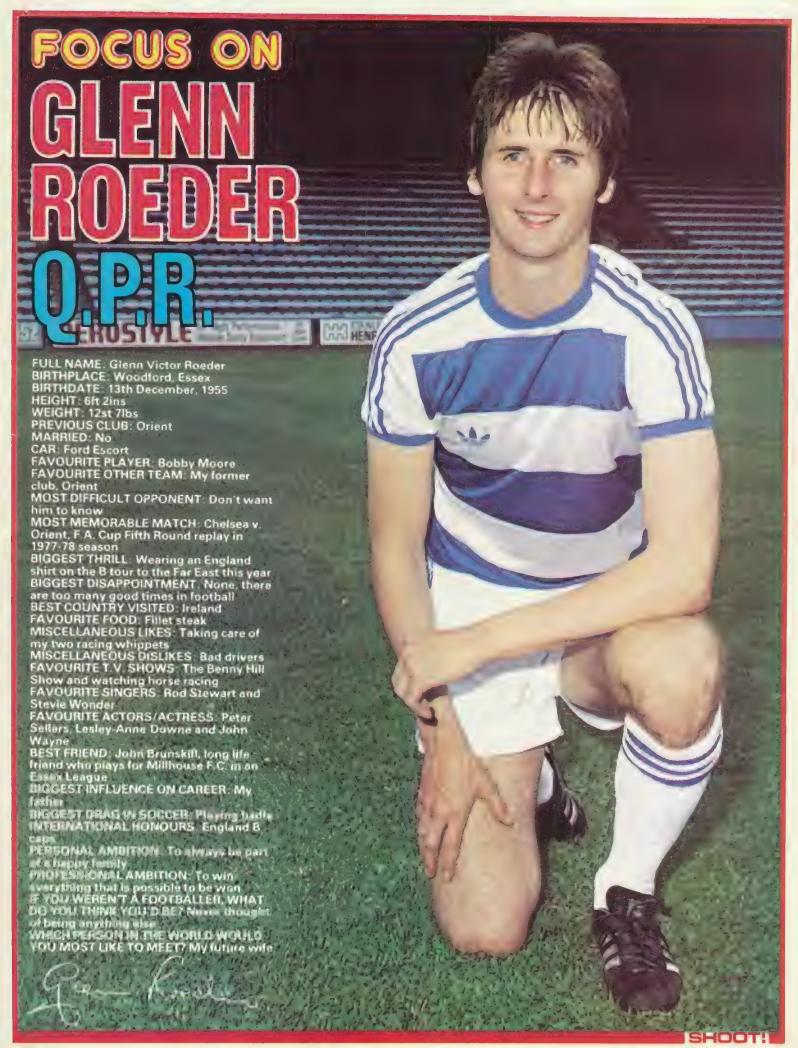
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SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO

SHOOT!. IPC Magazines Ltd. King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.



U.S.A. shock England

Could you tell me the England team that went down to that famous 1.0 defeat by the United States in the 1950 World Cup in Brazil?

MARK RIORDAN. GOSPORT

The Yanks may have had all the fortune going that day, Mark — and good luck to them for making the most of it — but, really, there could be no excuses for England when they put out a formidable side which read like this. — Bert Williams (Wolves); Alf Ramsey (Spurs), John Aston (Manchester Utd.); Billy Wright (Wolves), Laurie Hughes (Liverpool), Jimmy Dickinson (Portsmouth); Tom Finney (Preston), Wilf Mannion (Middlesbrough), Roy Bentley (Chelsea), Stan Mortensen (Blackpool), Jimmy Mullen (Wolves). Little wonder the papers next day headlined "The Goal That Shoot The World" — and subsequent victories over the U.S.A. by 6-3 (1953), 8-1 (1959), and 10-0 (1964) did nothing to erase the memory of that black day at Belo Horizonte on 29th June, 1950.

England v Scotland

Can you tell me the results of full internationals between England and Scotland over the past ten years?

MUSTAZA MUSTAFFA.

Here they are, Mustaza — England's

score first. 1-1 (Glasgow, 1968), 4-1 (Wembley, (Glasgow, 1970); 3-1 (Wembley,

(Glasgow, 1972); 5-0 (Glasgow,

(Wembley, 1973); 0-2 (Glasgow,

(Wembley, 1975); 1-2 (Glasgow,

(Wembley, 1977); 1-0 (Glasgow,

The reason there were two games in 1973, incidentally, was England's 5-0 win was in a special extra match to commemorate the centenary of the Scottish F.A.

Giantkillers Watford

I recently bought a Sixth Round F.A. Cup programme for a game between Watford and Liverpool on 21st February, 1970, and would like to know the result.

ANDREW HALL.

Bet you thought it was The Reds, Andrew — but a single second half goal from Barry Endean was enough to put Watford into the Semi-Finals. Unfortunately for the "giantkillers", they then went down 5-1 to ultimate Cup winners Chelsea next-time-out.

Clapton Orient

I'm a Swedish fan of Orient, and I'd like to know the result of their first League game?

PETER SVENSSON, SWEDEN

It was on 2nd September, 1905, Peter

 between two clubs who now play
under different names!
 In that Second Division match, Clapton Orient (as they were then called) lost

 1-2 away to Leicester Fosse (now known
as Leicester City).

<u>Five goal</u> "Supermac"

As England have often struggled to get goals in recent times, could you tell me the last player to get a hat-trick in a full international?

MICHAEL GUNNING, NEW ZEALAND

• Malcolm Macdonald was the man, Michael — and, what's more, he went two better by getting five goals. That was in a European Champion-ship fie against Cyprus, at Wembley on 16th April, 1975. "Supermac" celebrated his return to international action by getting the lot in England's 5-0 victory over the plucky, but outplayed, Cypriots.

Unizale Textile Arid are a Ruma-nian club who have been League Champions there six times.

(ANDREW WALKER, Farnham)

 Albert Johanneson, who played on the left-wing for Leeds v. Liver-pool in the 1965 F.A. Cup Final was a coloured South African exile

(MICHAEL LOKE, Singapore)

Aston Villa have won the F.A. Cup a record seven times: the League Championship six times; and the League Cup three times.

(DAVID MORRIS, Telford)

East Fife won the Scottish Cup in 1937-38, beating Kilmarnock 4-2 in a replayed Final after a 1-1 draw.

(KENNETH DICK, Fife)

You share your birthday of 28th February with two very famous international goalkeepers — Sepp Maier (West Germany) and Dino Zoff (Italy).

(RAYMOND GRAY, Eire)

Our Expert would like to point out that although all letters are read, he can only reply to published questions because of shortage of time



I. Stop pitey, deal with the detending player but restart the game with the goal-kick as the ball is not in play until it has passed the penalty-area, 2. Yes. At the discretion of the relete and if he teels it is not a danger to the player or other players. Although this is the role of bally disagree with it. I feel if must be a fanger. 3. The Law states you must not ignore because there are law more important things to worry about. And when you are refereeing outside the country you cannot understand what these managers are saying or the state and therefore cannot say they are coaching 4. RES. Although relerease not this, out of 25 years refereeing 1 have never been in this predicament probably can because before awarding a goal of movernal in the Ext. Cup between Ipswich and West Ham at Stamford Bridge I disallowed a final of the F.A. Cup between Ipswich and West Ham at Stamford Bridge I disallowed a goal to the perveen in the Saminary and the state of thought in the Saminary and the state of the perveen probably and the same of the perveen probably and the same of the perveen to the properties of the perveen probably the same of the perveen to the indirect free-kicks should be shown by the referee relaining his man and therefore the referee should award a goalkick.

HEY. BIG SP

COUTINHO BACK AT WORK

CLAUDIO Coutinho has come in from a voluntary seclusion of one month after the World Cup and has resumed his job as a coach of Flamengo. He is still convinced all his ideas were right, maintains Brazil were better than Argentina in the World Cup, and thinks he has estab-lished a solid foundation to win it in 1982, if still in command.

It remains to be seen what the relationship between Coutinho and relationship between Coutinho and Zico will be at Flamengo. Zico, who hasn't played or trained since the World Cup, on account of the injury he suffered in the game against Poland, criticised Coutinho after coming back to Brazil, claiming he had been unfairly dropped and replaced by Jorge Menonca.

Zico's father has been even more critical in his words to the Press. It is

critical in his words to the Press. It is worth remembering Zico is the dar-ling of Flamengo's supporters.

"SMALL" CHAMPIONS

GUARANI FC of Campinas in the state of Sao Paulo have won the 1978 Brazil Championship, defeating SE Palmeiras 1-0, 1-0 in the two-leg play-off Final. This is the first time a "small" club have ever been Champions in Brazil.

Still in that country, there could be considerable movement in the transfer market soon. Four of their World Cup stars are, apparently, up for sale . . .goalkeeper Leao (£250,000); midfielder Dirceu (£225,000); striker Roberto (£750,000) and schemer Zico

(£600,000). Dirceu, Brazil's best player in Argentina, seems to be a bargain, and actually joined America of Mexico after the Birmingham deal fell through.

HSV's BONUSES

HAMBURGER SV have announced a new bonds plan for this season: 1,000 DM (approx. £250) per point 1.000 DM (approx. £250) per point gained away from home; 750 DM for a home draw and 1,500 DM for a home win. On top of that, there will be extra bonuses if attendances top 40,000. Some HSV players are still not happy—wanting a further bonus if HSV qualify for a European competition, though the way they played last season.

WEST Germany manager Jupp Der-wall plans to visit Cologne to try and talk Heinz Flohe out of his decision to retire from international football.



SPANISH club Valencia will take some beating in Europe's League of Big Spenders. They've just splashed out another £185,000 on Espanol's 26-year-old midfielder Daniel Solsona, and this takes their spending in the last two years to a staggering total of over £2½ million!

Just take a look at this list of their signings since the summer

of 1976:

Player Prev. club Fee Paid Angel Castellanos Granada £150,000 Juan Carlos "Lobo" Diarte Jose Palmer Raul Cabral Hercules £125,000 Real Zaragoza £500,000 Burgos £127,000 £68,000 Burgos Jose Luis Manzanedo £230,000 Burgos Rosario Central Real Oviedo Mario Kempes £275 000 Jose Carrete £135,000 Rainer Bonhof Borussia M'gladbach £650,000 Daniel Solonsa Espanol £185,000 Dario Luis Felman **Boca Juniors** £200,000

Mind you, that £2½m. Isn't entirely money down the drain for the Spanish club. With so many top stars in their line-up, they're in constant demand for exhibition games, and they've just picked up a cool £160,000 for playing three friendlies in Argentina against Belgrano, Gimnasia y Esgrima and Rosario. Picture shows Kempes scoring for Argentina in the World Cup Final.

If Denmark have all their professionals in Europe available, their line-up could be: Birger Jensen (FC Bruges)
Flemming Nielsen (OB Odense)
Per Røntved (Werder Bremen)
Henning Munk Jensen
(Frederikshavn)
Søren Lerby (Alay) (Frederikshavn)
Søren Lerby (Ajax)
Carsten Nielsen
(Mönchengladbach)
Morten Olsen (RWD Molenbeek)
Benny Nielsen (Anderlecht)
Allan Simonsen (Mönchengladbach) Henning Jensen (Real Madrid) Jørgen Kristensen (Naestved)

• Picture shows captain Per Røntved reading his favourite British soccer magazine!

£2,545,000

TOTAL

Data Feb 4,'76 May 11, '76 May 23, '76	Venue A A A	Opponents israel Sweden Cyprus (WC)	7-0 2-1 5-1
Jun 24, '76	A	Norway	0-0
Aug 25, '76		Norway	3-0
Sep 1, '76	H	France	1-1
Sep 22, '76	H	Italy	0-1
Oct 27, '76	H	Cyprus (WC)	5-0
Nov 17, '76 Apr 13, '77 May 1, '77 Jun 15, '77 Jun 22, '77 Sep 21, '77 Oct 5, '77 Oct 9, '77 Feb 8, '78 May 24, '78	A A H A A A H A H	Portugal (WC) Bulgaria Poland (WC) Norway Sweden Finland Poland (WC) Sweden Portugal (WC) Israel Eire (EC)	0-1 1-3 1-2 2-0 2-1 2-1 1-4 0-1 2-4 0-2 3-3
May 31, '78	A	Norway	2-1
June 28, '78		Iceland	0-0

SABELLA -WAS HE A REGULAR?

SHEFFIELD United aren't very pleased with some of the things we've written about Alejandro Sabella, their Argentinian midfielder signed from River Plate.

We said his fee was only half of the £160,000 reported in the Press; while we also pointed out he was not a regular for the Buenos Aires club/

regular for the Buenos Aires Club.
United have asked us to point out
Sabella cost a total of £160,000 all in
and Antonio Rattin, Argentina's 1966
World Cup captain who assisted in the
Sabella deal, assured United the player
had been a regular for the past five

years
I don't have Sabella's record over the
past five years, but his figures since
1975 seem to indicate someone, somewhere, hasn't been totally honest about
the player's credentials.
1975 ... he played seven games in the
National Championship, scoring
one goal. His average rating in El
Grafico magazine (out of ten) was
6 28.

out of 53 League games Sabella played 17 complete matches and was also substituted

Sabella played 17 complete matches and was also substituted five times before the end in others. He came on six times as sub for a total of 118 minutes. Average rating: 5.60. Two goals. 1977... of 58 League games he played in nine complete matches and in five others was subbed before the end. He also came on ten times for a total of 222 minutes; scored one goal. Average rating: 5.4.

The 1978 Argentina Championship has been disrupted because of the World Cup. Sabella's last game for River was against Boca Juniors (which United manager Harry Haslam saw) and in this match he received a rating of 8 from El Grafico... his best since 1975. I have nothing personal against Sabella and I hope he does well for United, but the club took me to task over what they called "inaccuracies". I

over what they called "inaccuracies". I leave you to form your own opinion from these figures.

DENMARK'S RECORD

ENGLAND meet Denmark in Copenhagen in the European Championship on September 20th. Here are Denmark's results since

tish soccer ma			January 1st, 1976:				
	enue	Opponents	Result	Goalscorer(s)			
4,'76	A	Israel	1-0	Mogens Hansen			
y 11, '76	A	Sweden	2-1	Lars Bastrup, Ove Flindt			
y 23, '76	Α	Cyprus (WC)	5-1	Lars Bastrup 2, Allan Simon- sen, Niels Tune, Ole- Rasmussen			
n 24, '76	A	Norway	0-0				
g 25, '76	Н	Norway	3-0	Kurt Hansen, Per Røntved, Heino Hansen			
p 1, '76	H	France	1-1	Per Rentved			
p 22, '76	H	Italy	0-1				
t 27, '76	Н	Cyprus (WC)	5-0	Henning Jensen 2, Benny Nielsen, Per Røntved, Jørgen Kristensen			
v 17, '76	A	Portugal (WC)	0-1	.,.,			
r 13, '77	A	Bulgaria	1-3	Jan Serensen			
y 1, '77	H	Poland. (WC)	1-2	Allan Simonsen			
n 1, '77	A	Norway	2-0	Flemming Lund, Jan Sørensen			
n 15, '77	H	Sweden	2-1	Per Rentved, Allan Simonsen			
n 22, '77	A	Finland	2-1	Preben Elkjaer 2			
p 21, '77	A	Poland (WC)	1-4	Kristen Nygaard			
t 5, '77	A	Sweden	0-1				
t 9, '77	H	Portugal (WC)	2-4	Per Røntved, Allan Hansen			
5 <i>8, '78</i>	A	Israel	0-2	ı			
y 24, '78	Н	Eire (EC)	3-3	Søren Lerby, Benny Nielsen, Henning Jensen			
y 31, '78	A	Norway	2-1	Frank Årnesen, Preben Elkjaer			
ne 28, '78	A	Iceland	0-0				
Record: P-21	W-9	D-4 L-8 F-33 A-2	7	4			

VIEWS FROM TWO FORMER LEEDS STARS — AND THE NEW BOSS

WHEN Leeds United's directors began the search for a successor Jimmy Armfield they knew the field was going to be narrow.

That was a self-inflicted imposition made necessary by a desire to get the pery hest.

There is also a belief in the Leeds boardroom any manager of Leeds United must be a man of complete integrity with vast experience and huge standing in the game.

After the loss of Don Revie who had virtually run the club single-handed for over a decade, the Leeds' directors boobed badly over the Brian Clough affair, then felt impatient over the

Everyone will have first chance to impress me'



— JOCK STEIN

three years Jimmy Armfield dili-gently — but slowly — reshaped the future.

He gradually broke up a great team, as he had to do, by selling glants of the past like Bremner, Hunter, Cooper and Giles and he replaced them with men of the future like Currie, Graham, Hankin and

But towards the end of last season when the club's two most valuable properties Gordon McQueen and Joe Jordan were sold after expressing repeated dissatisfaction — and replaced alssansjaction — and replaced only by Second Division players Hart (from Blackpool) and Hawley (from Hull) — the rumblings grew louder and the end product became inevitable.

So Armfield left the house he was building and now Jock Stein has arrived to put a new roof on Elland

He comes into English football for the first time at the age of 55, with a reputation as high as the Elland Road pylons. He has been the greatest club manager ever seen in Scotland — his achievements have put him into folk lore North of the border — and that's exactly the sort of man Leeds were looking for.

They tried McMenemy (a bigger

man in a physical sense), they even toyed with Rinus Michels (his credentials are world renowned) but in the end they turned to Stein - ironically one of Don Revie's greatest friends.

Leeds did not want anyone who was going to win his spurs with them. Jack Charlton, who many tipped, but who firmly retorted weeks ago if offered the job he would refuse it, said then Leeds would go for a tried and trusted man with a record of success.

"They could have gone for Johnny Giles when Revie left — he urged them to appoint Johnny — but they wouldn't. Apart from Revie himself back in the early Sixties they've always insisted on experience at Leeds," said Jack.

Stein's first job on arriving at Leeds was to make sure the board was unanimous in wanting him there.
"I wouldn't have taken the job if

there'd been one dissenter. I must have wholehearted backing from everyone

wholehearted backing from everyone if I'm going to achieve success. "Even then I'm not guaranteeing anything. Football isn't the sort of game where anything is guaranteed as many have found out to their cost in the past. I'll give all my effort to this club because I think it's one of the greatest in the game.

Domestically

"I wouldn't have gone to any club in England — indeed I turned down Manchester United ten years ago when my wife didn't want to move. Domestically this move will cause problems at first, but once I've settled in at Leeds I'm sure everything will be fine.

Stein said the directors had told him if the side needed strengthening

"Although it didn't affect my decision one way or the other I saw Leeds at Arsenal on the first day of the season and they played very well — so that didn't do any harm to my decision.

"I'll want a little time to look at the staff to assess the overall quality but I can assure everyone they'll have first chance to impress. And I'm particularly delighted to work with Maurice Lindley who's one of the best and nicest people in the game."

Stein takes on a gigantic job. Leeds with all the glories of the Bremner, Charlton, Hunter, Giles era fresh in the memory, are desperate to get back into the big time, especially now their European ban is over.

He may bring Bremner back to help the cause, and as someone who has enjoyed the sweetest success of all in Europe — with Celtic triumph back in 1967 — you can bet your last Scottish pound note Jock Stein will be just as eager to prove he can do it all again.

THE last few jewels in the set of diamonds which spelled the name LEEDS UNITED over the past 15 years are gradually being picked out one by one, so that of the originals only Peter Lorimer, Paul Madeley and Eddie Gray remain.

Charlton and Bremner retired, Giles reshaping the future of football in the Republic of Ireland, Hunter and Cooper playing out their time down at Bristol, and Jones and Sprake forced out of the game through injury, the side which was the best British football could offer in the Sixties has gradually grown old and disintegrated.

The two most recent departures though are not going so quietly. Allan Clarke, that master "sniffer" of goals whose understanding with Mick Jones was telepathic and the envy of every manager in the country, has ventured into player-management with Fourth Division Barnsley. And in that Division he's already

and in that Division he's aireday come face to face with his old buddie, whose knack of being in the right place at the right time was equally uncanny — Paul Reaney. He's now

Thave my own ideas'



ALLAN CLARKE Barnslev

club captain of Bradford City still playing with the panache that won him three England caps — a miserly reward for such talent.

Clarke and Reaney have carried new ambitions with them into the Fourth Division.

The appointment of Clarke as player-manager at Barnsley is indeed interesting. One former Leeds' player made the observation Clarke was the only one of Don Revie's side he DIDN'T think would go into manage-

"Most of the lads learned a lot from Revie that would stand them in good stead for management, but Sniffer didn't seem interested. He was always a bit of a loner and I was surprised when he got the job at Barnsley," said

But despite that there's no doubting the enthusiasm Allan has taken with

him to the job. He's quickly reorganised a few things at Oakwell and he got the team off to a winning start in the League with a thumping 4-2 scoreline against Halifax Town.

"Obviously I did learn a lot from Revie, but I have my own ideas on how I want to run things," he said.

now I want to run things," he said.
"I'm looking forward to the job as a challenge, and I don't think still playing will create any extra problems. Johnny Giles was very successful as a player-manager and I think I can be

Reancy believes one of his jobs is to rid Bradford City of the 'joke' image that often becomes attached to a small club playing in an area where there is a side as successful as Leeds have

been.
"People obviously compare the skills, the way of life, and everything about the way clubs are run on different lines. At Leeds we had everything

— perhaps too much — while at Bradford it's obviously more of a struggle.

"But I'm sure this club can get back on the map. From what I hear Bradford has been crying out for a decent team for years, and for a city of over 300,000 people it's scandalous they haven't had even Second Division football for 30 years."

Like so many players up and down the country Reaney believes his own club can win promotion this season and City certainly started well, knocking Third Division Lincoln out of the League Cup and winning their opening League game 1-0 at Portsmouth.

There's a strong Leeds' influence down at Valley Parade these days. As well as Reaney the club has signed Mick Bates from Walsall, the mid-field player Don Revie often asserted

'This club can get back on the map'



- PAUL REANEY **Bradford City**

would play for England one day, there's David McNiven, the striker who was signed from Elland Road for a record £25,000 last season, and Rod Johnson who began his League career with Leeds.

In addition young striker Tony Rowe is on loan from Leeds and the club's general manager Bryan Edwards was on the Leeds' coaching

Even the club's new strip has a familiar "Leeds-look" about it, so much so some City diehards have complained their side look more like Leeds than the Bradford City they've become accustomed to.

One suspects if the team start playing like Leeds they won't grumble too much about the shirts.





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RULES

- Closing date for entry is 31st December 1978.

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SIZE OF TRACK SUIT

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRY 31st DECEMBER 1978

'A poor start but Ranger's start but Ranger's are playing good football!'

DID YOU know that I might never have been a footballer today if it hadn't been for a change of mind by my headmaster in my Secondary school in Dundee?

Let me quickly explain. This headmaster got the notion that a certain Derek Johnstone wasn't

certain Derek Johnstone wasn't taking too much interest in his academic studies because of football. Looking back, I think he was absolutely right.

Anyway, in a bid to get me back in order the headmaster stopped me from playing football. He didn't say anything about rugby, though, and I switched my interest to that rather remarkable game.

rather remarkable game.
Actually, I really enjoyed playing rugby. I've always been fairly well-built so I could always take care of myself. But just when I was really getting into the game the head-master realised I was always going to be more intent on sport than homework and he allowed me to go back to football.

I think the school team was missing me! It's strange how things work out, isn't it? I might

have been playing rugby instead of football today.

Some Celtic fans may even tell you that I AM still playing rugby!
Don't believe them...

Remember, the Parkhead men

had their own rugby-loving player in Jim Brogan, who also played, of course, for Coventry City and Ayr United. In fact, I believe the bold Jim is still playing rugby these



Right, I'd better talk about Rangers' start to the season just in case some people think I am trying to dodge the issue.

The statistics don't look too bright. In our first three Premier Division games we failed to hit even one goal. We lost 1-0 to St. Mirren at Ibrox and drew 0-0 with Hibs away and 0-0 with Partick Thistle at home.

Okay, the prophets of doom can have a field day if they want, but we know we are playing good football and if we continue to do

so the goals will come.

After the goalless game against Partick Thistie their manager Bertie Auld told John Greig that he thought Rangers were playing some of the best football he had seen in years. He wasn't joking,

The leading-up play is good, the players are working for each other and once we hit that net the goals will probably start to flow.
Just so long as we don't panic and
get frustrated. I don't think Mr.
Greig would allow that to happen.

Let me say here and now that it is satisfying to see the team playing well even if the results don't immediately back up that state-ment. Put it this way: some teams can win by four or five goals and not have played too well.

Contribute

A bad bounce of the ball, a woeful display from the other team's defence, rank bad goalkeeping can all contribute to a side running up a big score. But that only makes them think they have got it all together. The next game it might be their turn to be hammered out of sight.

It's better to have consistency and know your strengths. Of course, goals win games and can also give you confidence and I'm certain we will start rattling them in again. There is still an awful

long way to go.

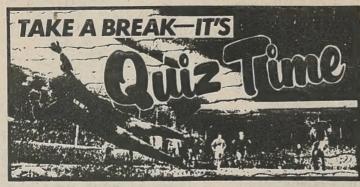
Rangers are known as bad starters, but it has never prevented us being in there at the end of the season when the honours are being handed out. Like I say, it is good to know your limitations, what you can and can't do.

Look at Bayern Munich, for instance. Their results go up and down as much as an overworked elevator in the Empire State Building! One minute they are on top of the world ... the next they are down fighting against relegation.

And a quick word here about the critics who are saying I should be playing up-front after starting the season at centre-half. I'll say just one thing . . . I'll play anywhere I am told to play. If Mr. Greig ordered me to play in goal I would do my very best in that position. See you all in a fortnight's time.

TARTAN TALK FROM CELTIC'S DANNY McGRAIN NEXT WEEK







Don't miss this all-star programme in SHOOT next week ...

In Colour: Brighton team group
+ North American Soccer
League Champions Cosmos in
Final action + Focus on Paul
Futcher (Manchester City) +
Eight More Pages For Our 'International Who's Who' Booklet.
The players featured are: Ray
Treacy (Eire), Trevor Brooking
(England), John Toshack (Wales),
Martin Buchan (Scotland), Noel
Brotherston (N. Ireland), Rod
Thomas (Wales) and Kenny
Burns (Scotland).
Features: Advanced to the colour street of the colour

Features: Manager Bob Paisley on how Liverpool sustain their incredible success. Malcolm Macdonald (Arsenal), Arnold Muhren (Ipswich), Steve Perryman (Spurs), Dennis Rofe (Leicester), Tony Dunne (Bolton), Mike Elwiss (Crystal Palace), Newcastle and Sunderland (Crosstalk). Plus starwriters Gordon Hill, Ray Clemence, Ray Wilkins and Danny McGrain . . And all your usual favourites.

For all that's best in football — follow SHOOT. PLACE A REGULAR

PLACE A REGULAR ORDER WITH YOUR NEWSAGENT NOW!

- 1. Former Mansfield Town striker Ray Clarke, pictured with his wife and children has proved a big success in Holland. During the preseason, Clarke was involved in a £225,000 transfer when he moved from Sparta Rotterdam to Feyenoord or Ajax?
- 2. Tom Johnston recently resigned as manager of which Fourth Division club?
- 3. Glasgow Rangers, Morton or Motherwell were once known as Wee Alpha?
- 4. The League Cup Second Round games were played recently. (a) Sheffield United, (b) Rotherham, (c) Southempton and (d) Blackpool progressed through to the next round. Which clubs did they knock out?
- 5. In the same round, the following players scored from penalties. Can you name the clubs they were successful for? (a) Frank Worthington, (b) Bob Latchford, (c) Alan Buckley and (d) Dixie McNeil.
- 6. This player (right) is captain of a London side . . . can you identify him?

- 7. Liverpool midfield star lan Callaghan (right) was recently discussing a transfer with which Third Division club?
- 8. Everton's Mick Buckley was another player in the transfer news when he signed for Sunderland, Newcastle United or Middlesbrough for an estimated £50,000, £80,000 or £100,000?
- 9. Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the name of one of Scotland's top managers and his club . . . XALE GSEORUNF (EEEDNRBA).
- 10. (a) Mike McDonald, (b) Peter Latchford and (c) Paul Hegarty were all ever-presents last season in the Scottish Premier Division . . . which clubs did they play for?





EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Irelan play European Championshi games on September 20th. See you can answer the followin questions about the competition

- 11. True or false? England finishe runners-up in 1968?
- 12. By what title was the tou nament once known?
- 13. Of the five Finals since it beginning, the trophy has had different winners. Czechoslovakia Russia, West Germany and Spaiare four winners . . . can you nam the other one?
- 14. Has England ever staged th Finals of the competition?
- 15. What is the furthest stage of the tournament that Wales hav reached?

ANSWERS:

1. Ajax. 2. Hudderstield Town. 3. Motherwell. 4. (a) Liverpool, (b) Arsenal, (c) Birmingham City, (d) Ipswich Town. 5. (a) Bolton Wandersers, (b) Everton, (c) Walsall, (d) Wocarham. 6. West Ham's Billy Wrearham. 6. West Ham's Billy Worarham. 6. West Ham's Billy Worarham. 6. West Ham's Billy Worarham. 7. Swansea City. 8. Sunderland for E80,000. 9. Alex Ferguson (Aberdeen). 10. (a) Hibernian, (b) Celtic, (c) Dundee United. 11. False — England finished third. 12. Nations — England finished third. 12. Nations — England finished third. 13. The Quarter-Finals in 1974-76.

GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (1) Howe. (5) Webb. (9) Fir. (10) Aura. (13) Law. (15) Arrow. (16) Fee. (18) III. (20) Ley. (21) Tie. (22) St. (23) Cherry. (25) Met. (27) To. (29) Iron. (31) Bark. (34) Houston. (35) Hunter. (38) So. (39) Own. (40) Nest.

DOWN:— (2) Of. (3) Wile. (4) Era. (5) We. (5) Bar. (7) Burley. (8) Lawyer. (11) Roe. (12) H. (14) Wifhe. (15) Alert. (17) Enter. (19) Lie. (22) Smith. (24) Robson. (25) Town. (28) Crass. (30) Corn. (32) At. (33) Knot. (34) Hew. (36) Us. (37) To.

Jumbled Name: MARTIN BUCHAN.

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HE definition of stardom is purely relative. So does Trevor Francis's reign as the star of Birmingham City truly reflect what one of England's most talented young strikers can achieve?

It is difficult to make such an analysis without appearing to slight the club concerned. But even the most ardent City supporter cannot deny that their side does not rank among the top ten in the First Division.

And as another poor start has prompted the hard-core St. Andrews followers to bay for blood, action and the fulfilment of long-standing promises, the case for Francis to seek his true potential elsewhere grows stronger by the week.

This is no new problem for Birmingham. Ever since they dis-covered the talented young Devonian playing for Plymouth Schools, his meteoric rise to football fame has brought managers from other clubs flocking for his signature.

At times, Francis has made it clear that he wants to go. At one stage he feared that City's lack of real success would spoil his international chances. But when England honours were bestowed and City appointed Jim Smith as successor to Sir Alf Ramsey, Francis made what seemed at the time a bold and assertive announcement.

which I would not swop with that of any other footballer in England.

me a testimonial match at the same time. I cannot say now whether I will sign another contract, but I certainly intend honour-

brilliant skills to the United States where he thrilled the fast-growing Detroit Express club with his goal-scoring prowess. It was argued that such a close-season spell would leave him stale for

BIG for Birmingham?

League season. But already, statistics prove that Birmingham might have been better served if all their players had gone with Francis.

Early season reports prove that Francis has lost none of his skill, enthusiasm, sharpness near goal or faith in what is so far his one and only League club.

But the question must be asked, as it has of so many other top-class players — can a player suffer because of loyalty to one club? Even more sadly, the answer is

You only have to recall the careers of Johnny Haynes and George Cohen at Fulham, Ron Davies with Southampton, Bobby Moore at West Ham United ... there are more.

It was, of course, the choice of these players to go or stay. But would Haynes and Cohen not have had a better opportunity of League Championship and F.A. Cup honours with one of the major clubs? Would Davies not have become a giant name in Europe if Manchester United had got him at his peak, when they so dearly wanted to sign him? And what of Upton Park idol Moore? At Liverpool, Leeds, Arsenal or Everton would he not

reached even heights?

Again it could be argued that these players, and those like them, thrived on being the big fish in their environment. And that they would have become one of many top-class names in higher company. But with Francis, now 24, the awareness is that of a player with so much to offer and so much more within him that he needs players of similar class around him to uncover.

Back to Francis. "Let's be realistic. City gave me my chance in League football. I was playing Second Division football at 16. I owe them a lot. But City owe me a fair bit also. I am their major public relations officer, have a great rela-tionship with the fans and have grown up at St. Andrews. What-ever I am in the game, City have helped me to achieve that status.

It has to be pointed out, however, that these sentiments were before his jaunt Stateside.

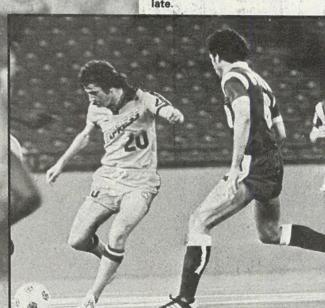
The Francis record is impressive. Before the beginning of this sea-son he had scored 115 League goals in 271 appearances. Various Cup competitions boost that tally considerably.

The combination of placid temperament, pace, strength, skill and scoring power make him almost priceless in modern valuations. Yet Birmingham know that if they sold him they could probably sign a third of a new team with the money. On the other hand they would face a near-revolution from their supporters who recognise Francis as their sole claim to recent fame and their most important

Francis, nursing an ankle in-jury, says he will honour his contract. But with those great players who missed out on great domestic honours in mind, he may well take his boots elsewhere when the existing contract runs out. Not because of bitterness, more money or extra fame. But simply to allow his undoubted talent the opportunity to develop to its full potential before it is too



. . in action for England against Hungary. There's no doubt he has the ability to become world class.



Francis . . . in action for Detroit Express in the States this summer.

